FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

6 JULY 1984

Gulf Conflict

Attack on Tanker — The Japanese-chartered tanker *Primrose* was hit during a missile attack east of Qatar, KUNA reported citing maritime sources. While Tokyo NHK television reported that eyewitnesses identified the attacking plane as Iranian, Tehran radio referred to an "unidentified aircraft" when reporting the incident,citing Gulf maritime sources.

Oil Transport — The UAE is planning to build an oil pipeline from Abu Dhabi to the Arabian Sea, bypassing the Hormuz Strait, OPECNA reported. Reacting to such moves, Iranian Petroleum Minister Mohammad Gharazi said that countries are being forced by others to spend vast sums of money on these projects and on arming themselves for aerial protection, Tehran radio reported. Iran is committed to ensuring Gulf shipping security; if the Gulf states halt their support for Iraq, its regime would be toppled and security would then be ensured, he stressed. Commenting on attempts to disrupt Iranian oil shipments, Gharazi asserted that no one is able to prevent Iran from exporting oil; besides, Iran has contingency plans to run the country without oil if that becomes necessary, he added. Meanwhile, the Iranian Petroleum Ministry denied a report that Gharazi had confirmed that the Khark oil terminal had been damaged by Iraq, IRNA reported.

Lebanon

Security Plan — The implementation of the second phase of the security plan continued with the removal of barriers throughout the capital, Beirut radio reported. Despite having many misgivings on the plan's ultimate purposes, a pro-Iranian Shi'ite group, the Hezbollah, announced that it would withdraw from the contact lines in order to fulfill the people's desire for security and stability, the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio reported.

Meanwhile, leaders of Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah Palestinian camps and leaders of the Amal Movement met in order to contain clashes that occurred between them, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. Security reports cited by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon added that Amal gunmen have not yet withdrawn from the vicinity of the camps.

In other security developments, clashes continued between rival factions in Tripoli, Beirut radio reported. Security sources cited by Voice of Lebanon radio said the clashes resulted in 41 dead and 125 wounded. In an attempt to end the fighting, the Northern Coordination Committee will meet under the chairmanship of the Tripoli mayor, Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon added.

South Lebanon — The "national resistance front" attacked two civilian cars near Ma'rakah, killing six Israeli intelligence men, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio reported.

PLO Affairs

The 28 June Aden agreement between Fatah and the Democratic Alliance will be officially announced in Algiers on 10 July, KUNA reported citing Palestinian informed sources in Tunisia. A 17 July meeting will then call for a PNC meeting, KUNA added. Meanwhile, PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum presided over a meeting in Damascus between the Democratic Alliance and the National Alliance, Radio Monte Carlo reported citing an informed Palestinian source. A National Alliance source asserted that the alliance remains committed to the removal of Yasir 'Arafat from the PLO leadership and that the Alliance will not attend any PNC meetings until this has been done, Radio Monte Carlo added. Along these lines, a National Alliance spokesman cited by Radio Monte Carlo said that the 28 June Aden agreement is not a suitable basis for a comprehensive national dialogue and that the alliance is not committed to any actions taken at the Aden and Algiers meetings.

In a related development, Faruq Qaddumi, PLO Political Department head, had a meeting in Damascus with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, KUNA reported. According to Palestinian sources close to Qaddumi, the talks dealt with Palestinian developments and Palestinian-Syrian relations, particularly Damascus-Fatah ties. In addition, a Fatah Central Committee delegation will arrive in Damascus next week to participate in the dialogue between the National Alliance and the Democratic Alliance, QNA reported citing Democratic Alliance responsible sources.

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PLO's Qaddumi Meets With Syrian President Al-Asad

LD052148 Kuwait KUNA in English 1951 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] Damascus, July 5 (KUNA) — The head of the PLO Political Department Faruq Qaddumi met here Thursday with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and his deputy 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

Palestinian sources close to Qaddumi said the talks at the meeting dealt with latest Palestinian developments and the Palestinian-Syrian relations, particularly Damascus ties with Fatah leadership.

The sources disclosed that a series of meetings will also be held with Syrian officials after the arrival tonight of Fatah Central Committee members Hayil 'Abd al-Hamid, Hani al-Hasan and Muhammad Ratib Ghunaym with the aim of resolving bilateral problems.

The sources also disclosed that President of Democratic Yemen 'Ali Nasir Muhammad will arrive here early next week for talks with the Syrian officials on the same topics.

Meanwhile, an official Syrian source commented on Qaddumi's meeting with Al-Asad by saying that Qaddumi's visits to Damascus and his meetings and contacts with Syrian leaders are something normal.

In Tunisia Palestinian informed sources told KUNA that Aden agreement between Fatah Central Committee member and four Palestinian groups reached late last month will be officially announced in Algiers next Tuesday.

The source said leaders of Fatah and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Palestine Liberation Front and the Palestinian Communist Party will meet July 17 to put the final touches on the call for a meeting of the Palestine National Council (parliament-in-exile).

Fatah Central Committee discussed the agreement last night and described the results of Aden meetings as positive and reviewed Syrian-Palestinian relations in light of Qaddumi's current visit to Damascus.

Monte Carlo on Meeting

JN051826 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1715 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Excerpt] Commenting on PLO Political Department head Faruq Qaddumi's arrival in Damascus yesterday and his meeting with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad today, an informed source told us that Qaddumi's presence in Damascus is a natural thing as he visited Damascus several times in the past and his contacts with Syria have not been suspended. The source added that Qaddumi's visits to Damascus and his meetings with Syrian officials have been going on for the last 2 years. The source said that everyone knows that Faruq Qaddumi's family lives in Damascus and that he has a house there. The source declined to give any further details.

On the other hand, we have learned from an informed Palestinian source that an important and expanded meeting took place at the PNC building in Damascus today. The meeting, which lasted more than 5 hours, was headed by PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum and was attended by Ahmad Jibril, George Habash, Nayif Hawatimah, Muhammad Khalifah, Samir Ghawshah, Colonel Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa], Colonel Abu Khalid al-'Amlah, Bassam Abu Sharif, Talah Naji, Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, Sulayman Najjar, Muhammad Zuhdi an-Nashashibi, and 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar.

The conferees resumed discussion of the results of the Aden meeting that took place between the national Democratic Alliance and the Fatah Central Committee. However, it seems that the parties in the Democratic Alliance have failed, so far, in reaching an agreement with the parties in the National Alliance on several points, foremost being 'Arafat's continued leadership of the PLO. A National Alliance source told us that the alliance remains committed to the need to topple 'Arafat from the PLO leadership and divest him of his legitimacy. The source added that the parties in the National Alliance still insist on not attending the PNC meetings before any agreement on this issue is reached. The source said that Muhammad Ghunaym, Fatah representative in Syria, is expected to arrive in Syria during the next few hours.

On his part, Khalid al-Fahum declined to make any statement. However, it has been learned that these discussions will continue tomorrow and the day after tomorrow.

A spokesman for the National Alliance has stated that the Aden agreement between the Democratic Alliance and the Fatah Central Committee is not a suitable basis for a comprehensive national dialogue. The spokesman emphasized 'Arafat is no longer qualified to lead the PLO. He pointed out that the National Alliance is not committed to any results which may emerge from the Aden and Algiers meetings, including the determination of the date for the PNC meeting.

Al-Fahum Seeks Safety for Palestinians in Camps

NC051826 (Clandestine) Palestinian Voice of National Unity in Arabic 1545 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] Damascus — A Palestinian meeting was held in Damascus yesterday that included the leaders of the Palestinian National and Democratic Alliances. The meeting was held under Brother Khalid al-Fahum, PNC chairman, with a number of PLO Executive Committee members attending.

The discussions during the meeting dealt with the incidents that took place recently in some Palestinian camps in Beirut.

'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, official spokesman for the PLO, issued a press statement after the meeting in which he said the conferees [word indistinct] with extreme anxiety and concern the regrettable incidents that took place in some Palestinian camps in Beirut and the attempts by the reactionary and agent forces

to exploit these incidents with a view to expanding their scope and harming the Lebanese-Palestinian fraternity. Abu Mayzar added: The conferees adopted a number of decisions and measures that will ensure the containment of these incidents, guarantee the security of the camps, and preserve the struggle relations between the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese nationalist forces. The conferees also decided to contact Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami, the leaders of the Amal Movement and of the Progressive Socialist Party, and the rest of the Lebanese nationalist forces in order to exert efforts to contain these incidents in a manner that will ensure the security and safety of their brothers in the Palestinian camps and strengthen the Lebanese-Palestinian-Syrian relations against the Zionist enemy and the designs of U.S. imperialism.

Brother Khalid al-Fahum, PNC chairman, has sent messages to three Lebanese leaders, expressing regret over the incidents that took place recently in the Palestinian camps in Beirut and asking them to provide security in these camps. Khalid al-Fahum sent messages to Rashid Karami, prime minister; Nabih Birri, minister of justice and electrical and water resources and minister of state for South Lebanon and reconstruction affairs; and Walid Junblatt, minister of public works and tourism. In the messages, Fahum expressed his regret about these incidents taking place between the Lebanese and Palestinian brothers. He also emphasized the need for bolstering cohesion between the Palestinians and the Lebanese nationalists in confronting the enemy. He expressed his confidence in these three leaders' resolve to ensure security in the Palestinian camps.

Khalil Al-Wazir on PLO Meeting, Syrian Dialogue

GF051305 Doha QNA in Arabic 1030 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] Kuwait, 5 Jul (QNA) — Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, announced a meeting will soon be held in Algeria comprising the various Palestinian leaderships within the PLO.

In a statements to the Kuwaiti daily *AL-QABAS* published today Al-Wazir stated during this meeting the new agreement between the factions of the Palestinian resistance on all political and organizational issues will be declared. Regarding Syrian-Palestinian relations Abu Jihad stated that if success is achieved in the mission of Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO's Political Department, which he described as the extension of the dialogue between the Fatah and the Syrian Government, Hani al-Hasan and Abu Mahir, members of the Fatah Central Committee, will visit Damascus to begin official talks between the two sides.

AL-ANBA' Interviews Khalid al-Hasan on Visit to USSR

GF060630 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 3 Jul 84 p 19

[Interview with Khalid al-Hasan, Fatah Central Committee member and head of the unified Information Department, by *AL-ANBA'* correspondent Muhammad Khalid Qatmah — date, place not given]

[Text] [Muhammad Khalid Qatmah] The visit you, Brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], and Brother Abu Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas] made to the Soviet Union was the longest visit ever paid by a Palestinian delegation. I hope I am not mistaken about my facts. First, did the nature of the discussions held warrant such a long stay, keeping you away from leadership meetings? Second, how do you evaluate the results of the visit which some have described as historic?

[Khalid al-Hasan] The delegation consisted of Brother Abu Mazin and Brother Abu as-Sa'id [as printed]. Brother Abu Iyad was not with the delegation or in the Soviet Union. In fact, Brother Abu Iyad was and still is in the GDR for medical treatment. Concerning this visit, we were surprised at the amount of attention given it by the Soviets and their concerted efforts as could be seen in the visit's programs. It was agreed that Tunis visit would be made during an earlier visit. During that visit many issues on the agenda remained undiscussed. The Fatah delegation was obliged to return to Tunis to attend a scheduled meeting of the Central Committee. We agreed to return and resume the dialogue on other matters, especially the issue of the Gulf war. Fatah delegations are usually received by the Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee, but when we arrived in Moscow, we were surprised to be received by the party's Central Committee. Upon our arrival at the airport, we were told we were the guests of the Central Committee. Observers considered this a new step in relations between Fatah and the Soviet Union, because the delegation represented Fatah and not the PLO. We were surprised to learn the Central Committee wanted us to remain in the Soviet Union not less than a month and longer if possible. We said that would like to stay for some time, but because of the current events in the Middle East, especially in the Palestinian arena, we could not. But they insisted to the degree that they held our passports and our tickets so as keep us for such a long time, and they insisted we take a rest during this visit. For that very reason, a few hours after our arrival in Moscow, we were all taken to a hospital for general check-ups. Then, we were taken to the Central Committee sanatorium in Krym. After our vehement persistence, we were able to return to Moscow after 6 days, not after a month as had been planned, so that we could hold a very long round of dialogue. Groups from the Central Committee, the Foreign Ministry, and the Solidarity Committee participated in the dialogue which concentrated on the subjects of convening the PNC, Syrian-Palestinian relations, and the role of the Soviet Union in normalizing these relations. The second topic which received as much attention as the first and was discussed for more than 4 hours at one of the sessions, was the current war in the Gulf and the necessity for exerting efforts to stop it or at least to prevent its expansion. This must not continue unless an inferno is wished for the region, something not in the interest of the region's people.

There were no differences between us and the negotiating Soviet delegations on the analysis of the Gulf war or on the necessity for making utmost efforts to ultimately end the Gulf war and to prevent its expansion as a first step in this effort.

It is true the visit was the longest visit of any PLO delegation or any other Palestinian organization. It could have been even longer, because there are some matters which were not fully discussed since the timing was inappropriate. One example of this, was the Aden dialogue session. Thus, there will be another round of discussions. The "Fatah" delegation has extended an

invitation to the CPSU Central Committee to visit our headquarters in Tunis to complete the dialogue which began in Moscow.

All those issues — as the Soviets said later — signal we are heading for a significant improvement in relations between Fatah and the Soviet Union, and thus between the PLO and the Soviet Union. One of the first points which confirms this improvement is that the Soviet Union agreed on the importance of the PNC's convocation and the resumption of legitimate Palestinian relations. This legitimacy should not be slowed and maximum efforts should be exerted so that the greatest number of organizations attend the PNC.

Also, when Brother Abu 'Ammar's situation was discussed, they said with all honesty: "There is no word of accusation against Brother Yasir 'Arafat in our dictionary, not in any human, moral or historic view. We believe if a mistake has been made, if there has been any, it can be corrected and not by the PLO's division." They referred to the battles in Lebanon and said: We know everything taking place and the role which you played. In addition to the heroic military stance, you achieved a moral victory which should be preserved.

When we were discussing the current divisions, they said it is evidence of struggle and not of sickness "because in historical eras there are always those who dream to control the marshal baton, but it is not possible to be proud of such people because they just dream and imagine. We would like to assure you we do not respect those who ride others' horses or let others ride theirs."

Regarding Egypt, they said: "We support the gradual return of Egypt because we know it is not possible for Egypt to suddenly free itself from the Camp David accords." We and you will do anything to restore Egypt to the Arab fold and to its Arab stance gradually. Apart from that, the agreement was comprehensive and clear after negotiations, which we should say were very clear and occasionally very sharp. But the results were more positive than we had expected.

[Qatmah] This answer leads me to three questions: First, have any discussions been held with a Syrian delegation or anyone representing Syria in Moscow?

[Al-Hasan] No official discussions have been held with any Syrian party in Moscow. However, there were Syrian personalities present and, of course, there was a meeting and talk but no official negotiations were held. I expect new developments in the next stage because things have become quite clear.

[Qatmah] You mean new developments with regard to relations?

[Al-Hasan] Yes, with regard to Palestinian-Syrian relations.

[Qatmah] My second question is: When you discussed at length for several hours the Iraqi-Iranian war, did the current Soviet analysis indicate a supportive stand toward Iraq, as the arms deals indicate? Are these deals an implementation of agreements or are they pure commercial activity? Does politics go in line with the armaments policy?

[Al-Hasan] Yes. If the activity was simply signing of an agreement or a commercial activity the Soviets would not have stopped supplying Iraq with weapons for 8 months following the start of the war and then resumed supplying it afterwards. The Soviet stand is clear and it is based on stability in the Gulf. Instability in the Gulf threatens the interests of the peoples in the region first and world peace second. Naturally, this will affect strategy; namely, all that is connected with international detente and with the political future not only in the region but also on a wider level.

Also this war has a big effect on the Arab stand in the conflict with Israel in the Middle East. Consequently, the Soviet Union does not adopt a commercial stand. It adopts a clear and principled stand manifested in some information and analyses which, for the sake of honesty, should not be published.

[Qatmah] Since the Soviets believe that stopping this war is a necessity for the conflict with Israel, did they refer to their efforts to establish a Syrian-Iraqi rapprochement in this connection, a thing which will definitely have an effect in ending the war?

[Al-Hasan] In fact, the Soviet stand is clear and we all know about it although this stand has not succeeded in bringing about a Syrian-Iraqi or Syrian-Jordanian, and Syrian-Palestinian rapprochement. During their talks, they repeatedly emphasized the need for solidarity among all Arab countries; they said without Arab solidarity there cannot be any effective Arab stand and consequently any effective Soviet efforts. The Soviets are very clear in this and are making efforts. However, as is known, Soviet efforts are not coupled with sanctions, as is U.S. policy. Rather, they are making efforts through dialogue and discussion, and they hope they will ultimately reach results based on friendship and cooperation.

In this connection I would like also to note that the Soviets are somewhat embittered despite the efforts they have made and in fact are currently making At any rate, the Soviet efforts in any problem of this kind cannot be intensified except through an Arab stand which makes the Soviet stand more effective than it is now. This is why the Soviets feel from time to time and warn, whether directly or indirectly, that some Arab brothers are not dealing with them as a state although their relations are built on interests based on peace and cooperation among the peoples.

[Qatmah] Can I say that as a result of the lengthy talks, intensive program, and the Soviet desire for the tour to last 1 month at least, the Soviets are now formulating or will formulate a new initiative or make a new analysis of the Arab-Israeli conflict?

[Al-Hasan] No. They emphasize their stand on holding an international conference on the Palestinian issue and on the Fes summit resolutions. They expressed their worries on whether the Arabs are still committed to the Fes summit resolutions. They know that for the international conference to succeed, it should have international attendance and thus the United States should attend because the United States is an indivisible part of it. However, holding this conference requires Arab solidarity, Arab coordination, and a clear Arab stand. The Soviets have expressed a willingness to coordinate in this respect on the highest level. Thus, the ball is now in the Arab playground and not in the Soviet

playground because the Soviets cannot struggle for us without our participation.

[Qatmah] Will Fatah brief other factions on the Moscow talks or will it do this through the expected PNC meetings?

[Al-Hasan] We prefer this to take place through the PNC meetings. We do not want to make attempts at forming factions; however, this does not mean that we will not discuss the issue because we have issued a message to our cadres and we do not object that it be known to any one.

[Qatmah] Do you hope the so-called Aden and Algiers meetings will succeed? It seems optimism is dominating Palestinian circles on this issue.

[Al-Hasan] I acquainted myself with the Aden talks. What is strange is the parties escape commitment to fixed dates for the expanded dialogue by the secretaries general, the PNC bureau's body, and the PLO Executive Committee and avoid fixing a specific date for the PNC meeting. Anything else in ordinary and political matters has been agreed on. We are not the only party bewildered by this escapism. The brother Yemenis and Algerians who participated in the meetings are also bewildered. Although there is an agreement that the delegations are fully authorized to reach agreements, we found out the delegations which came from Damascus were not fully authorized and thus what was agreed upon was initialled.

On the whole, I believe the efforts the Soviet Union and Saudi Arabia are currently making on Syrian-Palestinian relations, which were an issue of discussion between the negotiating delegations in Aden and the Saudi officials during the time our delegation spent in Jidda between the two dates, as well as our clear and flexible stand, will ultimately lead to a new initiative by President Al-Asad which will respond to these efforts to restore normal Palestinian-Syrian relations. Then we will find that all existing problens end as if by magic.

I call on these organizations to maintain their free will and an independent Palestinian decision so that the Aden agreements which were initialled can be the real beginning for a return of effective Palestinian legitimacy and for this legitimacy to be active on all Palestinian, Arab, and international levels.

'Arafat Reportedly Orders Reserves System

JN051348 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 5 Jul 84 pp 1, 19

[Text] Amman — *AR-RA'Y* — An informed Palestinian source has stated PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has issued an order making Palestine Liberation Army [PLA] and Fatah members who have reached the age of 60 reservists. The order also says that any PLA member or Fatah cadre can become a reservist if he wants to.

AR-RA'Y has learned a number of the PLO forces have reservations about the order, and some have refused to implement it. The paper has also learned that intensive consultations are being held with the PLO leadership to rescind this decision.

AR-RA'Y has learned that Colonel Na'im al-Khatib, PLA commander in Jordan, and some PLA members have reservations about the decision because it aims at emptying the Palestinian revolution of its cadres. Palestinian opposition circles believe that this decision must be rejected.

This is the first time in the history of the Palestinian revolution such a decision has been made. Since its establishment, the Palestinian revolution has not adopted a reserves system, but pensioned off whoever becomes unfit for the military service.

Amman PLO Official Elaborates

JN051507 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 5 Jul 84 p 19

[Text] Amman — *AD-DUSTUR* — Najib al-Ahmad, Amman office director for Yasir 'Arafat, commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has asserted that 2 weeks ago 'Arafat issued an order that would place all officers and soldiers who reached the age of 60 into the reserves.

In an exclusive statement to *AD-DUSTUR*, Al-Ahmad added that this decision will apply to all sectors of the Palestine Liberation Army [PLA] positioned in a number of Arab countries. He said that lists of soldiers and officers to whom the decision applies have been prepared for placement on the reserves lists. Al-Ahmad stated that this decision aims at rejuvenating the PLA, as in all the armies of the world.

Al-Ahmad strongly refuted reports disseminated by some news agencies that the purpose of this step was to reduce the size of the PLA for reasons related to the PLO's financial situation.

QNA on PLO Changes

GF051403 Doha QNA in Arabic 1210 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] Amman, 5 Jul (QNA) — The QNA correspondent in Amman has learned there have been important developments and reactions with regard to the resolutions made by the commander in chief of the Palestinian forces, Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], which pertain to military and civilian organizational matters. The correspondent learned of large-scale and intensive contacts with the Palestinian leadership in Tunis on containing and reconsidering these resolutions.

These resolutions to be implemented include reducing the salaries of the military through abrogation of the cost of living allowance and the additional allowance and reducing services of the Palestinian forces; ending the services of all those who joined the Palestinian revolution as of 1 September 1983; abstaining from enlisting or recruiting fighters without referring to the concerned authorities in the leadership headquarters in Tunis; allowing anyone willing from the Palestine Liberation Army [PLA] and the military cadres of the Palestinian resistance to become a reservist; and establishing the reservist system.

The correspondent learned that the contacts at this stage are designed to exempt the Badir forces affiliated with the PLA from these resolutions. The correspondent also learned these resolutions will have extensive and large-scale reverbations which

may affect the procession and the future of the Palestinian revolution and its armed forces. These resolutions were construed as extremely negative and as a prelude to something unknown.

The correspondent learned that direct contacts took place with the participation of Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], with the leadership of the Badir forces in Jordan, with Commander in Chief Abu 'Ammar, and with the board of the national fund. These important resolutions will be discussed at the important meetings scheduled during Abu 'Ammar's visit to Jordan in 2 days with the Palestinian political and military leaders there.

'Arafat Receives Message From PRC Leaders

LD052007 Riyadh SPA in English 1907 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] Tunis, July 5, SPA — PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has received a message from the Chinese leadership, which reaffirmed China's firm support to the Palestine cause and the Palestinian people's just struggle. The message was delivered to 'Arafat by Chinese ambassador to Tunisia Xie Bangding during a meeting in Tunis earlier today.

Meanwhile, the Palestinian news agency WAFA said 'Arafat had handed a written reply to the ambassador to be delivered to the Chinese leadership. The PLO leader's reply deals with latest developments in the Palestinian arena in particular and the Middle East situation in general.

Meanwhile, in Amman, a Palestinian official said 'Arafat has cancelled his proposed visit to the Jordanian capital. The official did not give any reasons for the cancellation of the PLO leader's visit to Jordan. Press reports in Amman had earlier sugested that 'Arafat was expected to arrive in the Jordanian capital within the coming 24 hours to preside over a meeting of the Palestinian Higher Council for Education, Culture and Science, due to start in Amman on Saturday.

ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: PLO Faction Developments

PM051607 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 4 Jul 84 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Abu Jihad Tells *ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*: PLO Crisis To Be Resolved Soon With Improvement in Relations With Syria"]

[Excerpt] Amman — Khalil al-Wazir (Abu Jihad), deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces [and Fatah Central Committee member], has confirmed in an exclusive statement to *ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* that the crisis which has afflicted Fatah's ties with some of the main Palestinian factions on the one hand and with Syria on the other is now being resolved and that this development will help the resumption of the PLO institutions' work.

Abu Jihad also said that in the past few days there has been a concerted Arab move to help the PLO out of its crisis and that the positive results of that move will emerge soon.

ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned that Saudi Arabia is sponsoring efforts for the rehabilitation of the Arab house and the strengthening of Arab solidarity, including Palestinian solidarity. It has also been learned that PDRY Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, who is also the secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party's Central Committee, will visit Syria within the next few days and that from there he will proceed to the Soviet Union to report the results of the Palestinian dialogue held around the end of last month in Aden where the conferees, representing Fatah's Central Committee and the Democratic Alliance, signed a political and organizational agreement.

ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has further learned that 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's visit will be made at the request of the Palestinian organizations interested in Syrian and Soviet support for the agreement produced at the end of the Palestinian dialogue which continued for 3 months in Algiers and Aden under the supervision of Algerian and Yemeni representatives.

PLO sources have confirmed to *ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* that Fatah is preparing for the normalization of its relations with Syria and has formed a delegation from the Central Committee to proceed to Damascus for talks with Syrian officials. The delegation includes [Central Committee members] Faruq Qaddumi (Abu al-Lutf), Hayil 'Abd al-Hamid (Abu al-Hawl), and Hani al-Hasan.

Meanwhile, a Palestinian figure has revealed the existence of differences within the resistance opposition factions which are reaching crisis point. These differences emerged after the signing of the Aden document which ended the dialogue between Fatah and the PFLP, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), and the Palestinian Communist Party and provided for joint responsibility for PLO leadership and preservation of the independence of the PLO's national decisions.

The Palestinian personality also said that the National Alliance, which includes the PFLP-GC, the Fatah dissidents, As-Sa'iqah, and the Popular Struggle Front, have not accepted the Aden document. As-Sa'iqah and the Popular Struggle Front have in fact rejected the agreement. The Fatah dissidents and the PFLP-GC have threatened to break away from the PLO and form their own Palestine Liberation Organization. The Palestinian source emphasized that all sides are eager to prevent such a secession from the PLO. PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum has invited the secretary generals of the Palestinian National Alliance and Democratic Alliance member organizations to a meeting in Damascus today, Wednesday, in the presence of some PLO Executive Committee members.

Pro-Syrian Faction Rejects June Aden Accord

NC051836 Paris AFP in English 1725 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] Damascus, July 5 (AFP) — A pro-Syrian Palestinian alliance opposed to Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) leader Yasir 'Arafat today rejected an accord reached last month by five PLO factions aimed at reunifying the divided Palestinian movement, sources here said.

The sources said the four-party Palestinian Nationalist Alliance, which fought pitched battles with Mr 'Arafat's Fatah group in the northern Lebanese city of Tripoli last year, would not take part in meetings envisaged in last month's accord.

Under the agreement, reached June 28 in Aden between Fatah and the four-group Palestinian Democratic Alliance, the PLO Executive was to be enlarged and preparations begun for convening the Palestine National Council (parliament).

The Aden meeting also moved to lessen Mr 'Arafat's power within the PLO and give the organization a more collegial leadership, which it was hoped could put an end to factional infighting.

But the nationalist alliance, grouping Fatah dissidents, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, the As-Sa'iqah group backing Syria's ruling Ba'th Party and the Palestinian People's Struggle Front, said today that it was uninterested in any plans to hold the proposed parliament session, the sources said.

DFLP Reiterates Israeli Prisoner Killed

JN051440 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1400 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] issued a statement in Damascus today. In the statement, the DFLP repeated that the Israeli prisoner it had detained was killed with three of his guards during the Israeli sea and air raids on northern Lebanon. It added that the International Red Cross was officially informed of this. The Israeli-Druze initiative committee, which took care of the prisoner throughout his period of imprisonment, was also informed.

ANSA: Arab League Communique Condemns Israel

AU051949 Rome ANSA in English 1932 GMT 5 Jul 84

[All quotation marks as received]

[Text] (ANSA) Rome, July 5 — The Arab League mission in Rome today condemned recent Israeli actions such as the confiscation of the Lebanese ferry boat *Alizur Blanco*, stating that by officially threatening to proceed in the future with similar acts of terroristic piracy," Israel had launched an arrogant challenge to all free men and above all, to all those the world over engaged in the delicate search for ways to ensure peace and security to people.

In a communique released to the press here, the Arab League said that even more grave was the permanent impunity enjoyed by Israel even within the various Western democratic circles; "an impunity not infrequently also imbued with sympathy, the league lamented.

Those who want peace, security and cooperation in the Mediterranean, must not only show clear, concrete and effective solidarity with one another but must voice firm condemnation for such acts (?and) move to block any repetition of them, the league added.

GULF AFFAIRS

KUNA Cites U.S. Spokesman on Tanker Attack

LD051959 Kuwait KUNA in English 1913 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] Washington, July 5 (KUNA) — The United States Thursday deplored the air attack on a non-belligerent oil tanker in the Arabian Gulf, but claimed it could not confirm that the attacking planes were Iranian.

"We understand that the Liberian-registered tanker *Primose* was attacked by unidentified aircraft today in the Gulf east of Qatar," said State Department Spokesman John Hughes.

He said the vessel was only slightly damaged and was "apparently proceeding to its destination."

The spokesman added: "The United States continues to deplore attacks on vessels in international waters."

However, he told reporters, "We aren't able to give you a view on who was responsible for this attack."

When told that eyewitnesses had identified the planes as Iranian, Hughes said, "I don't have any reason to doubt it, but I also don't have any reason to confirm it."

The United States had AWACS radar planes patrolling over Saudi Arabian territory that are theoretically capable of monitoring Iranian air activity as far away as the opposite side of the Gulf.

KUWAIT

Algerian Presidential Envoy Arrives in Kuwait

LD051502 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1447 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] Kuwait, 5 Jul (KUNA) — An Algerian presidential envoy — adviser at the Presidential Office 'Abd al-Qadir ibn Qasi — arrived on a visit here to convey a message from Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid to Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah. No information has so far been made available regarding the contents of the message. However, it is believed it concerns the Iraq-Iran war. Kuwaiti sources stated the Algerian envoy will convey the message to Shaykh Jabir during their meeting on Saturday.

AL-ANBA' Urges Changes in New Citizenship Law

GF051829 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 5 Jul 84 pp 1, 22

[Column by 'Abdallah Ahmad Husayn: "So That the Mistake Will Not Be Repeated"]

[Excerpts] It was decided Kuwait will grant citizenship to about 500 people a year. The granting of citizenship is inevitable as we need people of special qualifications and we need to boost the population density. Therefore, there is no argument on the principle of granting citizenship. However, the discussion must concentrate on the method by which we grant citizenship to others so we will not impose upon ourselves people whose hearts and swords are with our rivals and enemies.

Once we realized our mistake of granting citizenship to incoming people of different nationalities, we should have concluded that none of us must think of granting Kuwaiti citizenship to non-Arabs and that we must re-examine the law on granting citizenship to Muslims. This is because we suffer the dangers caused by Muslim people, amongst whom there is no citizenship which does not declare its origin as Muslim.

Choosing an Arab is not sufficient. The choice should be made on good inclinations and in keeping away from anti-Arabism currents. This means we must not choose people because they are ready-made. We must put our finger on people whose stand and faithfulness we trust and who can take on society life and make progress with it.

We still suffer from the mistake of previous citizenship committees, which is why banning the granting of citizenship is a thousand times better than letting past travesties be repeated. These travesties made us conscious of our heads every time we wanted to move, lest we should anger immigrant nationals and for fear of their dangers.

Any corrupt person from whom Kuwaiti citizenship has been withdrawn should not be granted citizenship again and any corrupt person who tries to obtain it should be stopped because citizenship is not a post or a financial grant. Citizenship is a membership which gives the new Kuwaiti rights which in no way can be withdrawn from him. Let us look at those to whom we give our necks and deliver our chins.

SAUDI ARABIA

AL-JAZIRAH Hits U.S. Democrats Pro-Israeli Stand

PM051417 Riyadh AL-JAZIRAH in Arabic 27 Jun 84 p 2

[Jasir al-Jasir article: "The Quality of U.S.-Israeli Ties"]

[Text] Authors of the U.S. Democratic Party platform introduce it with the proclamation: "Building a secure future for our nation and the world... this is the Democratic platform for our national security."

Building a secure future. This is the party's slogans, but the Democratic Party theoreticians have their own view of the category of people deserving of a secure future being ensured for them. If we exclude the term "our nation," which means achieving security for the American nation, an objective which is the right of every U.S. party to try to achieve, and turn toward the Middle East, for which the platform authors devoted a major section, we would find that the first sentence to face the reader of the platform says: "The Democratic Party believes the security of Israel and the endeavor to achieve peace in the Middle East are one of the fundamental priorities of the U.S. foreign policy."

From this sentence we understand the Democratic Party equates the achievement of peace in the Middle East with the security of Israel. But this equation is of particular significance for the Democratic Party thinkers. This is clarified in the following sentence which immediately follows the above sentence and which further clarifies its dimensions: "Israel remains more than just a reliable friend, a firm ally, and a democratic companion. Israel is strategically important for the United States and therefore we must enter with it into meaningful strategic cooperation."

Thus Israel's security, in the eyes of the Democratic Party theoreticians, has its distinctive characteristics and qualities since they believe the United States' relations with Israel should go beyond the ties of friendship and firm alliance.

The ties the Democratic Party platform is proposing leave the observers in no doubt about the type of ties between the United States and Israel which the Democratic party sees as even stronger than the ties of reliable friendship and firm alliance: "We must enter with it into a meaningful strategic cooperation."

This is clear and unequivocal — to blend the Zionist interests and objectives with those of the United States, although we often saw U.S. interests and objectives taking second place to those of Israel when it is in Israel's interest. This is clearly evident in matters and issues over which Israel raises objections even though they realize gains and interests for the United States.

This is quite clear in U.S. arms sales. What is strange is that the Democratic Party platform confirms it, as if the platform authors want to confirm their Zionism by explaining this point which only means a superpower coming more and more under the tutelage of a small power and giving the opportunity to officials of a small state to interfere in the sovereign affairs of a major state. Zionists of the Democratic Party have confirmed this point in several paragraphs, of which we cite two which tie the hands of the would-be Democratic president:

The first paragraph says: "The Democratic Party opposes the U.S. Administration's current sales of highly sophisticated weapons to Israel's known enemies, such as AWACS aircraft and Stinger missiles."

The second paragraph says: "We must emphasize Israel's military supremacy over any military alliance in the Middle East region."

What does this mean? It is a U.S. commitment not to sell any sophisticated weapons to any Middle Eastern country while being ready to supply such weapons to Israel gratis so Israel will remain militarily superior to all Arab countries.

This is how peace and security will be achieved in the Middle East according to U.S. Democratic Party policy.

UAE

Reports on Offering Syria Oil Denied

GF061120 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0520 GMT 6 Jul 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 5 Jul (WAKH) — A UAE official source today denied the report published by the Paris-based magazine *AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI* on an offer the magazine alleged the UAE made to officials in Syria to provide it with oil in return for a review of some of its international stands.

The source said officials in Syria knew before anyone else the information the magazine published is wrong because such an issue has not been proposed in previous meetings. The source said publishing such fabricated news impairs UAE relations with fraternal and friendly countries and that the UAE stand is known to all brothers and does not need new affirmation because this stand springs from its genuine and firm principles the UAE leadership and people are committed to at all levels.

OPECNA: New Pipeline To Bypass Hormuz Strait

LD051857 Vienna OPECNA in English 1649 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 5 Jul 84 (OPECNA) — The Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) is planning to build a 500 million dollar pipeline to transport crude from Abu Dhabi's onshore oilfields to terminals on the Arabian Sea, bypassing the Straits of Hormuz, it was announced here today.

ADNOC chairman Shaykh Tahnum ibn Muhammad al Nuhayyan said the company was already conducting studies and surveys on the project, which would be capable of carrying 500,000 b/d.

He said the capacity of the pipeline could ultimately be increased to 800,000 b/d.

According to the daily *AL-KHALIJ*, ADNOC opened a tender inviting construction companies to develop the project within 15 months.

Special Port Planned

GF061116 Doha QNA in Arabic 0855 GMT 6 Jul 84

[Text] Ash-Shariqah, 6 Jul (QNA) — It was reported here that concerned parties implementing the oil pipeline project from Abu Dhabi to Al-Fujayrah to export UAE oil via the Arabian Sea have decided to set up a special port to export oil from Al-Fujayrah.

The newspaper *AL-KHALIJ* reported today that the oil reservoirs to be set up in Al-Fujayrah will be on land and that floating reservoirs will not be used.

The Abu Dhabi National Oil Company will implement the project, announced yesterday, at a cost of $50 million. It will be around 200 km long and will not be completed until 1986.

PDRY

Briefs

Australian Envoy to PDRY — Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, member of the Political Bureau and foreign minister, today received a copy of the credentials of Allen Dewana Brown, as the Australian nonresident ambassador to the PDRY. [Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 3 Jul 84 84 GF]

Finnish Envoy to PDRY — Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received today the credentials of Unto Turunen as the nonresident ambassador of Finland to the PDRY. [Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 4 Jul 84 GF]

Al-Baz Discusses Gulf War, Other Issues

NC051240 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary of the Foreign Ministry and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, announced that President Husni Mubarak will visit Brioni, Yugoslavia, where he will meet with Yugoslav leaders in order to coordinate positions and discuss steps necessary to stop the Iraqi-Iranian war. He added that Egypt is continuing its contacts with India and other countries to stop the Gulf War.

During a news conference held today for Egyptian and foreign correspondents in Cairo, Dr al-Baz said that when Egypt started its initiatives to end the Gulf war, it was aware it would be a difficult task because Iran refused all previous initiatives. He added: Prompted by its responsibility as an Arab and Islamic state, Egypt embarked on this initiative in order to rescue the area from the dangers of escalating the situation and from foreign interference.

Dr al-Baz said the Security Council's resolution on stopping attacks on civilian targets in the Gulf is an important step which must be followed by other steps to bridge the gap of differences among the parties to the dispute. Therefore, he added, Egypt will continue its efforts to achieve this goal. Egypt has prepared objective points to stop the war between Iraq and Iran in consultation with the states concerned.

Dr al-Baz also said Chadian President Hissein Habre will visit Egypt on 15 July to hold talks with President Husni Mubarak.

Referring to the Lebanese crisis, Al-Baz said Egypt welcomes the security agreement reached by the Lebanese parties. He said it is an important step toward establishing peace in Lebanon. He demanded Israel's unconditional withdrawal from Lebanon to establish security and stability in Lebanon and to avoid foreign interference there. Commenting on the recent agreement by the Palestinian sides in Aden, Al-Baz said: The Palestinians must work toward guaranteeing a timely solution to their problem.

Dr al-Baz said the exchange of Egyptian and Soviet ambassadors — the date of which has not yet been fixed — is an important step in bolstering bilateral relations. He emphasized that Egypt wants good relations with all states. He referred to the continuation of good relations between Egypt and the United States. He said the recent contacts between President Husni Mubarak and U.S. President Reagan, through an exchange of letters, centered on the situation in the Gulf and the Middle East. He said the United States is interested in stopping the Gulf war.

Regarding the meeting between Presidents Mubarak and Mitterrand next week, Dr al-Baz said the meeting will take place within the framework of the continuing consultations between the two presidents to take steps leading to peace in the area.

Dr al-Baz referred to Yasir 'Arafat's statement regarding the importance of achieving mutual recognition between the PLO and Israel. He said this trend must be encouraged to make it possible to initiate a dialogue to settle the Palestinian issue.

Regarding the Israeli elections, Dr al-Baz said it is an internal Israeli issue and that Egypt is in contact with all Israeli sides to explain the Egyptian point of view and to give an impetus to peace efforts.

Concerning the situation in Sudan, Dr al-Baz said that during their meetings, Presidents Husni Mubarak and Ja'far Numayri reviewed conditions in Egypt and Sudan as well as the measures adopted in Sudan to solve its problems.

After this, Dr al-Baz spoke about the internal situation in Egypt. He pointed out that the new government is expected to be formed next week. He emphasized that Egypt is working to alleviate the sufferings of the people and to stabilize the prices of basic goods.

Israeli Actions Hampering Peace

NC051605 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1425 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Excerpts] Cairo, 5 Jul (MENA) — Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary at the Foreign Ministry and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, has expressed Egypt's welcome and happiness over the agreement to achieve security in Lebanon.

Replying to a question on the forthcoming Israeli elections, Dr Usamah al-Baz said: We do not interfere in Israel's internal affairs. We have contacts with all the Israeli parties, not just the Labor Party, to expound our views on means for pushing forward the peace efforts in the region.

Dr al-Baz affirmed that Israel's insistence on building settlements and its illegal practices in the occupied Arab areas are obstacles in the path of the peace efforts. He said: We cannot continue to move in a vicious circle.

Dr al-Baz explained that Egypt has studied all the initiatives that have been put forward for peace in the Middle East, and has found they have a common ground. He said there is an Egyptian view aimed at boosting peace efforts within the context of the common ground of the initiatives. He added: In order to achieve this, there must be a transitory phase which should be an extremely important and necessary phase to pave the way for action. This phase should be based on the need for Israel to create a new climate by halting the building of settlements, fostering confidence among the Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza strip, and putting an end to any [illegal] practices in the occupied territories.

Replying to a question on the PLO's stand on the question of peace, Dr al-Baz said: Yasir 'Arafat said in two statements he is ready for reciprocal recognition of Israel. Al-Baz emphasized 'Arafat's stand should be encouraged, but added that Israel had not created an encouraging climate for the Palestinians and is still engaged in building settlements and in its inhuman and illegal practices in the occupied territories — a matter which hampers all peace efforts.

Ghali Addresses Disarmament Conference
NC051645 Cairo MENA in English 1600 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] Geneva, July 5 (MENA) — Egypt is keen on a rapid conclusion of a treaty providing for a comprehensive ban on nuclear experiements and adopting preventive measures to this effect to ensure the safety of non-nuclear countries against nuclear wars and threats.

In the first address by an African and Arab minister before the Disarmament Conference currently in session here, Egyptian State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali underlined the need to the enforcement of international peace, which necessitates firm abidance by the principles of the United Nations Charter and international law.

Dr Ghali stressed the need to secure outer space against non-peaceful uses and to stand against the expansion of the arms race there.

He expressed Egypt's hope that efforts to work out an agreement banning chemical warfare and attacks on nuclear installations would succeed.

Speaking of Egypt's strategy regarding disarmament, the Egyptian state minister reviewed Egypt's efforts to denuclearize the Middle East area, underlining that frequent positive United Nations resolutions to this effect were adopted in accordance with Egyptian initiatives.

Dr Ghali called upon Israel to join the agreement on non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and to subject its installations to international supervision and control.

He underlined Egypt's denunciation of the nuclear designs of the racist regime in South Africa. He stressed Egypt's interest in the European security issues since they are linked to the security of the Mediterranean and Middle East areas.

The Egyptian state minister for foreign affairs voiced his country's support for and solidarity with the May 22 four-continent declaration issued by the heads of state and government of India, Tanzania, Mexico, Argentina, Greece and Sweden, calling upon the five nuclear countries to stop nuclear arms experiments, production and deployment and to work out a permanent programme on armament reduction.

Commenting on the failure of disarmament talks, Dr Ghali warned against deterioration in world relations and international economy which would result in negative consequences on the Third World economic and development targets.

He underlined the responsibility of the nuclear countries, particularly the super-powers, in halting nuclear armament race, and expressed hope that the United States and the Soviet Union would resume their talks in this respect in Geneva soon.

Commentary Warns Lebanon of Israeli Ambitions
NC051413 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Muhammad Sharaf Commentary: "Israel and the Reconciliation in Lebanon"]

[Text] The implementation of the security plan, approved by Rashid Karami's government comprising leaders of all Lebanese communities, began in Beirut yesterday. According to news reports the implementation of the plan is proceeding successfully: The communities' militias began to withdraw and store their heavy weapons; the militias are adhering to the cease-fire, and the Lebanese Army began to deploy in specific areas in both sectors of Beirut. All crossing points between the two sectors of the Lebanese capital are to be opened today. If matters proceed according to schedule, Beirut International Airport and sea port will be opened tomorrow to air and sea traffic.

There is no doubt this is considered a big achievement for Rashid Karami's government and a first basic step on the road toward reconciliation among the communities, and the halting of bloodshed and the civil war, which has continued for long years and actually led to Israel's invasion of Lebanon and its occupation of south Lebanon.

However, it would be wrong for anyone to imagine the situation in Lebanon can stabilize easily because there are internal and external forces against the stabilization of the situation in Lebanon as well as against the unity and independence of Lebanon. Of the internal forces I mention some of the extremist Phalange wings objecting to conceding their old priviliges and friendly with Israel, and to be more precise — polarized by Israel.

Of the external forces I mention Israel. Israel's stand needs to be analyzed because Israel will exert its utmost efforts to subvert the situation in Lebanon. It is no longer a secret Israel has a specific plan, which is being implemented in relation to southern Lebanon where Israel's occupation is concentrated. According to press and other reports Israel is working to annex southern Lebanon after expelling its Shi'ite inhabitants and settling large numbers of Jews in it, or at least to establish a "mini-state" in southern Lebanon completely under its control. The main obstacle in the way of implementing this Israeli plan is the presence of a strong central government in Lebanon.

It is also known that halting the fighting among the Lebanese communities — which has exhausted Lebanon for many years — and these communities' agreement on a formula of coexistence among themselves on an equal basis and under a constitution acceptable to all, will strengthen the power of the central government which can direct its efforts — without any impediments — toward the liberation of southern Lebanon. The concentration of the Israeli occupation in southern Lebanon is not for reasons of security or to protect Israel's northern border as the Israelis claim. Israel's ambitions in southern Lebanon are old and, aside from political reasons, aim at controlling the water sources in the area. One of the [political] reasons is the Israeli occupation of Lebanon will distract attention from the basic Middle East issue, namely, the issue of other Arab occupied territories in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, and the Syrian Golan where reports

indicate Israel has recently intensified settlements — Israel has established in this occupied Syrian territory about 31 settlements, housing over 8,000 Jews. In short, Israel will exert its utmost efforts to subvert the Lebanese reconciliation and Lebanese leaders must be extremely alert.

Briefs

Canadian Loans, Grants — Cairo, July (MENA) — The Canadian Government approved 133-million dollar loans and grants to Egypt to help finance power and training projects of the five-year development plan. This was announced today by Minister of Electricity and Power Mahir Abaza following a meeting with a technical team which will leave tomorrow for Ottawa under Electricity Authority Chairman Hamdi ash-Sha'ir to consider the final uses of the Canadian loans and grants. [Text] [Cairo MENA in English 1440 GMT 5 Jul 84 NC]

Communique No 1,517 on 4-5 Jul Operations

JN051624 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Communique No 1,517 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 5 July 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The valiant soldiers of Saddam's Al-Qadisiyah continue their courageous activities in the sectors of operations against the forces of the rancorous Khomeyniite clique. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our forward units pounded enemy positions and assembly points opposite their positions in the operational sector east of Basra with all types of weapons, killing 8, wounding others, and destroying 13 infantry positions whose occupants were killed. Our forces also destroyed one observation post and set several of the enemy's equipment and hardware on fire.

2. Our forward units pounded with all types of weapons an enemy force which tried to approach their positions in the battlefield's central sector, killing or wounding many enemy troops. Three hardware stockpiles were also destroyed in another area of the same sector.

3. Our artillery shelled several enemy troops opposite one of our forward unit's positions in the operational sector east of Tigris, killing or wounding three troops.

4. One infantry position and one observation post were destroyed in the northern sector of the battlefield.

[Signed] The Armed Froces General Command, 5 July 1984

Military Will Use New Weapons, Destroy Khark

JN060902 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0548 GMT 6 Jul 84

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Jul (INA) — Two Iraqi papers today called on states and organizations to put effective pressure on Iran and to support Iraq's defense of its legitimate rights, particularly its right to use its ports and waterways and to freely navigate through the Arab Gulf.

The two newspapers, *ATH-THAWRAH* and *AL-JUMHURIYAH*, said in their comments today that the only road open for Iran is that of peace and peaceful coexistence with its neighbors without any interference in their internal affairs.

ATH-THAWRAH said that the differences among the pillars of the Iranian regime do not affect their expansionist approach of aggression, no matter how wide these differences may be. They can have disputes and all kinds of differences among themselves, but they will remain united on evil and in agreement on war and aggression against Iraq.

The paper added: The Iranian regime's aggressive intentions are continuing. It may be said that each new defeat increases the Iranian regime's spite against Iraq and emphasizes the Iranian rulers' deplorable spirit. The paper affirmed that the Iranian regime's hesitation in launching its expected offensive does not mean that it has renounced its aggressive intentions.

In this regard, the newspaper pointed out that the crushing, unceasing Iraqi blows on land, at sea, and in the air were the main reason for the Iranian regime's hesitation in carrying out its new aggression.

The paper said that if Iran launches an aggression, Iraq will use new weapons that have not been used before. They will become acquainted with these new weapons and will experience their efficiency, the paper added.

AL-JUMHURIYAH said that Iraq considers peace as the rule and war as the exception. It said: Nobody wants peace more than Iraq. Iraq's endeavors for peace are well known, and its calls for realizing it are still valid.

The paper said: Iraq will not abandon its strong position. It will continue to fight with great stamina; crush any new aggression; tighten its siege on Iranian ports; step up its strikes against ships and tankers that attempt to break this siege; and, if necessary, destroy Khark Island. Iraq will destroy this island at the suitable time.

U.S. Congressional Delegation Activity Reported

Meets Haddad

JN051132 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1052 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Jul (INA) — Speaker of the National Assembly Na'im Haddad met here today with the U.S. congressional delegation led by Mr Bannerman, who represents the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Views were exchanged on a number of regional and international issues of joint interest.

During the meeting, Haddad reaffirmed Iraq's rejection of the presence of any foreign forces in the Arab Gulf region regardless of their identity, because such presence would threaten world peace and harm the people's interests. He called for the U.S. to take a stand that is not biased in favor of the Zionist entity, and for exerting effective efforts to stop Zionist support for the Iranian regime in supplying it with weapons, equipment, and spare parts.

Exchanges Views With Ramadan

JN051400 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1244 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Jul (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, first deputy prime minister, has affirmed that the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war harms the region and subjects international interests to danger. This, he said, requires a halt of assistance to the Iranian regime, which insists on pursuing its aggression against both Iraq and the Arab nation.

During his meeting with a U.S. congressional delegation led by Bannerman, who represents the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Ramadan pointed out Iraq's peaceful stands and sincere desire to solve the conflict with Iraq peacefully.

They also exchanged views on several Arab and international issues of common concern and the Iraq-Iran war.

Kuwaiti Sources Cited on Hit Liberian Tanker
JN051424 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1405 GMT Jul 84

[Text] Kuwait, 5 Jul (INA) — Maritime sources here today said that a giant oil tanker transporting a shipment of Saudi crude oil from Ra's Tannurah port was hit during an air raid east of Qatar today.

Citing maritime sources, WAKH says that the tanker *Primrose*, chartered by a Japanese shipping company and flying the Liberian flag, was hit by two missiles. One of the missiles was said to have hit the engine room and another to have hit the deck of the ship and fallen into the sea. The sources added that the tanker is not in trouble and that it is proceeding on its course.

Husayn Greets Reagan on Independence Day
JN051254 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn today sent a cable to U.S. President Ronald Reagan. In the cable, King Husayn congratulated President Reagan and the American people, in his own name and on behalf of the people of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, on the U.S. independence day.

His majesty pointed out that the noble principles of the American nation, which are represented by freedom, justice, equality, and liberation from injustice, are principles that are dear to all peoples. He said that peoples have the right to enjoy and exercise these principles which are in harmony with the high ideals of our Islamic and Arab heritage.

His majesty wished President Reagan continued good health and happiness.

Perez de Cuellar Mission Viewed, Arab Dialogue Urged
JN060954 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 6 Jul 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Perez de Cuellar's Statements and the Arab Responsibility," *AD-DUSTUR* writes: We can consider the wishes that UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar voiced during his news conference yesterday — at which he announced that talks on the Middle East may begin at the endof this year through the Security Council — a diplomatic way of disclosing the fact that his recent mission in the Middle East has reached a semi-deadlock.

It has been known from the beginning that the Israeli-U.S. rejection of the international peace conference would bring the UN secretary general's efforts to such a result.

The paper says: The United States, which has appointed itself as the influential party in the Arab-Israeli conflict since 1977, has become completely biased toward Israel in the political, military, and economic spheres. This situation has led not only to freezing the issue in the U.S. refrigerator, but has deprived the United States of being a neutral mediator in the conflict and has caused the United States to obstruct any international effort aimed at activating the issue and removing it from the stalemate.

AD-DUSTUR adds: In order to be fair to the UN secretary general, we say that his recent tour of the region and his meetings with the parties to the conflict were aimed at convincing everybody that the only way to save the issue from the current impasse is to return it to international responsibility, with the participation of the five big powers and the parties involved. However, the UN secretary general's efforts have not achieved the expected results. The only remaining possibility is to present the issue at the Security Council after the U.S. elections. This possibility makes us ask questions about the Arab stand and how it should be.

AD-DUSTUR continues: The current situation, which includes negligence and lack of coordination, will not help to move the issue from its stalemate and to present it at the Security Council. This situation requires an earnest Arab move in order to formulate an Arab stand capable of dealing with the developments in accordance with an agreed strategy. Such a stand can be achieved only through the three Arab parties closely connected with the issue — namely, Jordan, the Palestinians, and Syria.

AD-DUSTUR concludes: A serious and sincere dialogue among these parties must take place soon so that at the expected peace negotiations — if approved by the Security Council — the Arabs will have a firm and unified stand which will safeguard Arab rights, and guarantee that occupation will be removed from the Arab territories.

Continued Reportage on Security Plan Implementation

Port Employees To Work 9 July

NC051122 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] Henry Fir'awn, director general of the company for the administration and utilization of Beirut port, has announced work will resume at the port as of next Monday [9 July]. Henry Fir'awn stated the following: In light of the implementation of the security plan drafted for Greater Beirut, all employees of the company for the administration and utilization of Beirut port are requested to report to duty as normal effective Monday morning, 9 July 1984.

Barricade Removal Continues

NC051515 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Excerpt] The operation to remove barricades, emplacements, and obstacles from a number of areas [in Beirut] was successfully implemented today preparatory to reopening the crossing points between the capital's two sectors. Earth barriers have been removed from the area between Al-Hazimiyah Circle and Galerie Sim'an, the road between Al-Musharrafiyah and Mar Mikha'il has been opened, and work has started to remove the earth barriers from the At-Tayyunah and port areas.

A short while ago the Port Road was opened in one direction. At the same time work is continuing in the At-Tayyunah quarter and obstructions have been removed from the Airport Road.

More Bulldozers Needed

NC051937 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] The implementation of the security plan's second phase providing for opening the crossing points between the two sectors of the capital, preparatory to the opening of the airport and the port, continued today.

Removing the obstructions, earth barriers, and bunkers from Galerie Sim'an road began this morning. At noon, the road linking Al-Musharrafiyah with Mar Mikha'il was opened. At 1320, the process of bulldozing the barriers in the port area began.

The Army Command's Guidance Directorate has reported a number of officers from the 6th and 3d Brigades met at the Mar Mikha'il-Galerie Sim'an crossroads, after the earth barriers and obstructions had been removed preparatory to opening the road to travelers.

As for the port crossing point, work is continuing there to remove the barriers and to examine the roads to determine whether there are mines.

The Security Arrangements Committee held a meeting at the Mar Mikha'il church intersection with all its members attending. The committee supervised the removal of the barriers, especially in Galerie Sim'an and Mar Mikha'il. However, the operation met with some obstacles because of insufficient equipment and vehicles. This prompted the Security Arrangements Committee to contact the Oger-Lebanon Company and to ask it to send additional bulldozers to speed up the work.

French Observers To Redeploy

NC051722 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] The implementation of the security plan has called for an adjustment of the French observers' mission, according to their chief, adding that those observers will be redeployed in new posts particularly on the roads leading to the port, At-Tayyunah, and Galerie Sim'an. This adjustment comes in response to an official request made by the Lebanese Government. The adjustment will not, however, extend to the posts in the mountain pending further [security] steps. Apart from these changes, the chief of the observers said the mission of the French observers will remain the same.

In another development, informed sources have told the Voice of Lebanon that after the Greater Beirut security plan has been implemented there will be a 10-day trial period. If the results are satisfactory and everything goes according to plan, the security plan for the mountain will be effected. Political and military leaders are currently exploring this plan.

PLO-Amal Contacts Noted

NC051819 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] Shafiq al-Hut, director of the PLO bureau in Beirut, has disclosed that meetings were held between major figures of the Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah camps on the one hand and leaders from the Amal Movement on the other to contain the clashes which had taken place between the two sides.

Gunmen Still Near Camps

NC060543 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 6 Jul 84

[Text] Security reports indicate the Amal Movement has not yet withdrawn its gunmen from the vicinity of the Palestinian camps in West Beirut.

Clashes have taken place in this area during the past few days between Amal gunmen and the Palestinians which resulted in the death of 8 people and the wounding of 11 others, according to Amal sources.

The clashes and the tension between Amal and the Palestinians continue to be a source of concern, particularly as most of the roads to Beirut airport are adjacent to these camps.

Remote Weapons Storage Discussed

NC060934 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 6 Jul 84

[Text] The Amal Movement is holding meetings in the An-Nasiriyah barracks in Al-Biqa' to discuss the possibility of storing the movement's weapons in a remote site for fear of an Israeli raid.

On the other hand, the Hezbollah in West Beirut has announced the withdrawal of its gunmen from the suburb and western Beirut.

Hezbollah Views Plan

NC051845 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1630 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] The Hezbollah information office believes the new security plan constitutes an arrangement for Greater Beirut's first step toward an American solution in Lebanon to be followed by a second step, namely, the reaching of security arrangements with Israel, which has been exhausted by the Islamic resistance in the lofty Jabal 'Amil. Consequently, a lowly solution for the Palestinian question will be reached after which everyone will be free to confront the so-called Gulf war — to be more precise, the Islamic revolution in Iran.

In a statement issued today the office affirmed due to the fact the Hezbollah does not have any confidence a balanced plan will be implemented, and due to its full knowledge of the plan's background, it announces its withdrawal from the contact lines so as not to form an obstacle to the fulfillment of the people's desire for security and stability, and so as to thwart the maneuvers of the so-called Lebanese forces, who are basically bound to the Israeli-American plan in the area.

The Hezbollah information office pledged to the struggling Islamic masses it will not let Israel rest in the south and will not allow its agents to implement its plans in Beirut, the southern suburb, or anywhere else in Lebanon. The Hezbollah will remain the watchful eye, with all the honorable people, to defend the power and dignity of the Muslims, to prevent any hegemony and domination, and to bring to account those who caused the death of innocent people and the destruction of Muslim areas.

Continued Reportage of Situation in Tripoli

Clashes Resume 5 Jul

NC051603 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] At 1630 today clashes resumed in Al-Jadid and Al-Arz streets in the Al-Qubbah area in Tripoli. All types of heavy- and medium-caliber weapons are being used in the clashes and are accompanied by intensive gunfire. Endeavors are now underway to halt the new deterioration in the security situation in the capital of the north.

Death Toll Rises

NC051452 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] Reports from the north indicate that intermittent clashes have continued [in Tripoli] between the Unification Movement and the Arab Democratic Party and that medium and light caliber weapons were used in the clashes.

Security sources have said that the death toll in the city has risen to 41 and the number of wounded to 125. The sources add that the Lebanese Red Cross today pulled out 11 bodies from deserted buildings which were the scenes of violent clashes between the two warring parties in the past 2 days. Activity was paralyzed in the capital of the north; schools and shops were closed and the people were wary of moving around. Those taking a chance in moving about were surprised by sniper fire targeted at them in the streets.

The Northern Coordination Committee met today in a new attempt to stop the clashes following the failure of previous attempts. The Unification Movement called on the Islamic forces and leaders to shoulder their responsibilities in stopping the massacres.

Committees Discuss Situation

NC060650 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0600 GMT 6 Jul 84

[Text] A state of tension and anxiety continues to prevail in Tripoli while sniper fire and intermittent machine gun volleys also continue.

Reports received this morning say that intermittent volleys were heard during the night following renewed clashes. Guarded calm prevailed before noon yesterday. This created an atmosphere of satisfaction which allowed the resumption of normal activities. But this calm remained only until the afternoon when intermittent clashes were renewed and sounds of explosions were heard again.

Contacts are continuing to be made to deal with the situation and to stop the clashes.

The Northern Coordination Committee will meet again today under the chairmanship of Tripoli Mayor 'Ashir ad-Dayah to resume discussions on the need to consolidate the cease-fire and to implement the decisions adopted in that respect, particularly the formation of a committee from the Islamic Unification Movement, the Arab Democratic Party, and the sons of Ash-Shibbanah [not further identified] to supervise implementation.

The committee members will also hold another meeting today to appraise the results of the contacts and to draft a comprehensive and final plan to prevent these incidents' recurrence. A delegation from the coordination committee will leave for Beirut to discuss the Tripoli situation with Prime Minister Rashid Karami and Major General 'Uthman 'Uthman, director general of the Internal Security Forces.

Al-Jumayyil Justifies Abrogating 17 May Accord

NC051132 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] In an interview with the French weekly *POLITIQUE INTERNATIONALE*, President of the Republic Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil stresses that he refuses to play any foreign cards and that he chooses the Lebanese card. President al-Jumayyil does not express any enthusiasm for the decentralization or cantonization plan, saying this means forgetting Lebanon's unique status, and he stresses proportional representation. The president of the republic gives legal justification for the abrogation of the 17 May accord. He says Israel has violated the spirit of the accord with its sudden withdrawal from Ash-Shuf and with its practices in the south. He adds that Lebanon informed Washington it reserved the right to suspend or abrogate the accord if there was no Israeli withdrawal. This is what has happened, particularly as the accord had not yet been signed. President al-Jumayyil says this was the minimum of Lebanon's rights and that Lebanon's credibility cannot be infringed upon in this case.

The president of the republic praises the role which the Multinational Forces played in Beirut. He says that France is one of the countries most capable of supporting us because we share a civilization and principles as well as cultural, economic, and social interests. However, some of France's interests in the region reduce its role and its enthusiasm towards us.

Junblatt Talks With Soviet Officials in USSR

NC051153 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt continues his visit to the Soviet Union, where his talks focus on the situation in Lebanon and the Middle East region. He will meet with a number of high-ranking Soviet officials.

WAKH Reports Soviet Military Aid Offer to Army

GF051846 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1710 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] Beirut, 5 Jul (WAKH) — Lebanese governmental sources which asked to remain anonymous have noted reports disseminated regarding a Soviet offer to equip the Lebanese Army with sophisticated Soviet weapons and to participate in rebuilding the devastated economic sectors "are more than true." These sources said the offer was presented by the Soviet diplomats accredited in Beirut who set the condition this proposal will be implemented once the security plan succeeds and once a further balance in the Lebanese state administration is attained among the disputing factions.

Al-Murabitun Reviews Events With Soviet Charge

NC051325 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1230 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] A delegation of the [Independent Nasirite Movement] Al-Murabitun leadership consisting of Nuhad Urfali, Muhammad Qulaylat, Dr Yusuf Tabsh, and Dr Muhammad B'asiri, today met with (Yuri Suslikov), Soviet embassy charge d'affaires in Beirut. During the meeting, a review was made of the political and security developments in Beirut, Lebanon, and the Middle East and the position the Soviet Union occupies in solving the crises in Lebanon and the area at present and in the future.

Defense Minister on U.S. Role, Resistance in South

NC052021 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1945 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] 'Adil 'Usayran, minister of national defense and agriculture, has called for considering ways to bring about security measures in the south independent of the United States. The United States, he said, is declining to intercede with Israel in this respect, while Israel is, in its turn, refusing UN Security Council intervention.

'Usayran called on the Lebanese Government to support the resistance against Israel and to supply the resistance with weapons and men.

Budapest Interviews Communist Party's Hawi

LD042315 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2020 GMT 4 Jul 84

["Ten Minutes of Foreign Politics" program; interview with George Hawi, secretary general of Lebanese Communist Party, by Jozsef Szabo; Hawi remarks recorded in Arabic with superimposed Hungarian translation; date not specified]

[Text] [Szabo] Today perhaps will enter history as the great day of Beirut, Lebanon. The military division of Beirut in two is ceasing, the Green Line being abolished, the crossing places being opened, and the opposing militias have handed in their heavy weapons. Do you believe this process finally can be lasting now, and that further steps can be taken toward a political solution? Why are the chances for agreement, for advance, better now than earlier?

[Hawi] First, I must refer to the main result — that, with the leadership of Rashid Karami a Lebanese unity government has come into being. This has become possible as a consequence of the American intervention attempt's failure and the Israeli-Lebanese special deal's being thwarted. The struggle of the patriotic forces gained new impetus. We were able to deal blows at the central government, the fascist government, at whose head Al-Jumayyil came into power, so it was no longer able to keep control over the country as it had previously. This is how the Syrian mediation could come into being. This is how the Geneva and then the Lausanne reconciliation conferences were able to come about.

Of course, the difficulties are apparent now too. What is happening these days could have taken place 2 weeks ago. The Syrian foreign minister said during his most recent visit to Beirut that the Karami government should take the necessary steps for a political settlement because if there were no settlement, the patriotic forces would be compelled to start a new fight to force their will on the government.

This is how the reorganization of the Lebanese Army could be realized. If the Army tackles the security tasks in Beirut, it can slowly extend its activity to all of Lebanon. If we can manage to bring an end to the civil war, then we can finally confront the fundamental task — termination of the Israeli occupation. This is the perspective of the present situation.

[Szabo] The Karami government unites many different forces. Do you see a possibility that such differing tendencies as those represented by Al-Jumayyil, Junblatt and the others will work together for a long time within the framework of the Karami government?

[Hawi] Our point of departure was that we first had to solve an extremely serious problem. As far as the future is concerned, it is possible peace will prove to be fragile and the battles start up again. It is also possible, however, peace will continue, and what is happening now will become the beginning of a new process. We are fighting for the latter prospect. To ensure a lasting peace, however, the Israeli occupation has to be ended. Israeli influence must cease and we must isolate those people who would like to continue to rely on the Israelis.

[Szabo] Do you consider Al-Jumayyil's readiness to cooperate as honest, and in any case do you consider him strong enough to enforce his will within his own camp?

[Hawi] Al-Jumayyil did not choose this path voluntarily. He attempted to rely on the Americans, and he then tried to make a deal with the Israelis. He also tried to gain a position of strength within Lebanon itself by using the Army and the right-wing militias. But he failed. After all this he had no other choice but either to resign or attempt an agreement with the patriotic forces and the Syrians. In the circumstances of current power relations he simply had no other choice than that he eventually opted for.

On the other hand, it is also a fact that Al-Jumayyil has difficulties within his own camp, especially with the forces in direct contacts with Israel. In any case, my opinion is if Al-Jumayyil were to decide one day to break with these forces, he could find the internal and external basis to lean on to overcome his opponents. My fear is, however, Al-Jumayyil will not opt for this path, but will merely try to gain time by sitting out the U.S. and Israeli elections so he can then launch a big offensive against us.

[Szabo] Do you not see a danger that precisely as a consequence of the many kinds of political forces, Lebanon might disintegrate? So that in reality it might split up into cantons along the Swiss model, as the right-wing would like?

[Hawi] A real danger threatens the unity of Lebanon, since the right-wing really would like to transform the country into a loose union of small states on a denominational basis. They want a federation, but essentially a federation of independent cantons. We reject these endeavors, if only because Lebanon is (?made up) of various nationalities, and religion cuts through Lebanese society from top to bottom. There can be Christians and Muslims within the same family. The new Lebanon cannot be created on a religous basis. Moreover, if independent cantons were to be organized, a strong central state authority could not come into being from the outset. In fact, we would sanction the collapse of the state. Some cantons immediately would fall under Israeli influence, and Israel would like this from the outset.

[Szabo] Only a few weeks separate us from the Israeli elections. Do you think the result of the Israeli elections could influence the situation in Lebanon? I am thinking that the Labor Party appears to have a slightly more realistic attitude than the present government coalition.

[Hawi] The Israeli elections will doubtless also influence the situation in Lebanon. Don't forget the elections in Israel have had to be brought forward because an internal crisis emerged within the country resulting from the protracted occupation of southern Lebanon. The constant and increasing casualties in the Israeli Army represent an extremely touchy problem in Israel's domestic politics. Therefore one of the main electoral pledges of the Labor Party is that they will bring the Army home from southern Lebanon. Of course, as the date of the elections approaches, Peres and his people are setting increasingly long deadlines for the withdrawal. At the moment they are talking about a period of between 3 and 6 months. At the same time it appears that neither big parties will be able to obtain the necessary majority in the elections, and they will be forced to enter into coalition, even with each other, perhaps. Precisely because of this, we in Lebanon must concentrate on the struggle against the occupation, so that no matter which government comes to power in Israel we will be able to force them to withdraw.

[Szabo] Concerning the relationship between Israel and Lebanon, it appears to be a new approach that the Karami government is prepared to guarantee the security of Israel's border in Galilee. In other words, in the long run the opportunities for Palestinian action in Lebanon will cease. How do you view this question?

[Hawi] We came to an agreement at the Damascus meeting that Lebanon will take the necessary measures itself in order to stop any form of action which could serve as a pretext for making the occupation of southern Lebanon permament. This agreement is, in a way, the alternative to the special agreement between Lebanon and Israel that once existed which would have given Israel the right to take such measures. The Israeli Government, however, rejects the Damascus agreement and is striving for a new special deal — a new Camp David. In this situation we have no other option but to strengthen the various forms of resistance.

[Szabo] Do you think it is acceptable to the Palestinian leadership, the leadership of the Palestinian movement, that the Palestinians not pursue any activities in Lebanon?

[Hawi] The Palestinians must accept realities, the reality that eventually evolved as a result of the Israeli aggression. The Palestinians must take the interests of Lebanon, and also the interests of the patriotic forces of Lebanon, into consideration. We want to place Palestinian-Lebanese cooperation on new foundations, and we recommend a dialogue for working out the new formula. When we are against a Palestinian presence, this primarily means we are opposed to the old-style presence of the Palestinians, which benefited neither the Palestinians nor the Lebanese. We want to come to a new spiritual agreement with the Palestinians, one which takes current realities into account.

French Envoy Discusses France's Role in Lebanon

NC060644 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 6 Jul 84

[Text] In an interview with the magazine *LA REVUE DU LIBAN*, French Ambassador Fernand Wibaux said the French role in Lebanon is clear, understood, and firm. He stressed that France has always been devoted to Lebanon and its people. France believes that the best way to help Lebanon is to give full support to its legitimate authorities and to establish the best possible relationship with the groups that comprise Lebanese society.

Wibaux said peace in Lebanon is the responsibility of the Lebanese people themselves. France, which had participated in the Multinational Forces, had hoped to play a role in maintaining order without thinking for a single day that it could establish peace all by itself.

Wibaux said it is wrong to consider the French role in the Multinational Forces as useless. He expressed his pride in the French soldiers who were willing to make the greatest sacrifices in Lebanon. He also praised the observers who are now trying to stop a large-scale deterioration in the security situation.

Wibaux said all of us are subject to dangers in one way or another but we accept these dangers if they are the necessary price a friendly nation must pay to restore its unity and peace. The French ambassador added France will accept any political formula acceptable to all Lebanese groups, that indicates rejuvenation. But he refused to comment on the nature of this formula, stressing his country supports any formula agreed on by all Lebanese.

Resistance Attack Reported To Kill 6 Israelis

NC051710 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1640 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] We have just received the following from our correspondent in the South:

On the road between the townships of Ma'rakah and Tura, in an operation which is the first of its kind, the national resistance front this morning implemented a daring operation against two Toyota and Volvo civilian cars belonging to the Israeli Intelligence Department and succeeded in killing six intelligence men. The bodies of the Israeli soldiers [as heard] remained by the roadside about 4 hours until they were spotted by helicopters.

AFP: Austrian Envoy To Meet With Palestinians

NC051301 Paris AFP in English 1254 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] Damascus, July 5 (AFP) — A special envoy of Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky arrived here last night for talks with Palestinian leaders aimed at an eventual exchange of Palestinian prisoners in Israel and Israeli prisoners held by Palestinians in Syria, an Austrian diplomatic source here said.

The envoy, Herbert Emry, was to meet with leaders of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC) on Red Cross visits to prisoners in Israel and Syria as a first step toward exchanges, the source said.

The PFLP-GC is said to be holding two Israeli soldiers whom it wants to exchange for an unspecified number of prisoners in Israel.

Minister Refutes Iraqi Claims on Euphrates Water

JN052102 Damascus SANA in Arabic 2005 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Damascus, 5 Jul (SANA) — Irrigation Minister 'Abd ar-Rahman Madani denied here today the Iraqi allegation Syria withheld Iraq's share of the Euphrates water.

On 3 July 1984, WAKH cited the Iraqi minister of irrigation as saying Syria withheld the Euphrates water from Iraq, which resulted in a shortage of water allocated for irrigation during the current summer season. The Iraqi minister added that the estimated Euphrates water shortage for this season was approximately 60 percent. Iraqi Government circles claimed the Syrian measure directly contributed to increasing the water shortage thereby threatening crops in Iraq's southern sector.

The Syrian irrigation minister called the allegations entirely false, and explained that there are unquestionable facts completely refuting what has been attributed to Iraq's irrigation minister.

PNC Speaker Assails U.S.; Rejects PLO Split

JN052155 Damascus SANA in Arabic 2020 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] Damascus, 5 Jul (SANA) -- PNC speaker Khalid al-Fahum emphasized that the United States is the main and strategic enemy of our Arab Palestinian people. He also emphasized that the Arab Palestinian people reject any illusions about the possibility of the United States changing its intentions. He pointed out that Palestinian national unity can only remain and continue if the Palestinians know who is their friend and who is their enemy.

In an obituary speech commemorating martyr Hanna Muqbil, secretary general of the Arab Journalists Union, and during a celebration held by the General Federation of the Palestinian Journalists and Writers in the Al-Yarmuk Camp in Damascus today, Al-Fahum affirmed that the Syrian-Palestinian-Lebanese nationalist struggle is identical. He described it as the most powerful and fateful alliance in the service of the pan-Arab cause. He also affirmed that the friendly USSR is closer to this alliance than those fabricating erroneous illusions about the alleged intentions of U.S. and imperialist protectors of, partners in, and collaboraters with the Zionist aggression.

Al-Fahum expressed his rejection of any split in the PLO and explained the PLO's unity can only be achieved through full commitment to its charter and the successive PNC decisions. He also expressed his rejection of any attempt to split the Palestinian popular organizations, unions, and federations.

This is in addition to any decision or measure that is taken unilaterally, or any contact that does not conform with the PNC decisions or the objectives of our Arab Palestinian masses' struggle. Concluding his speech, Al-Fahum stressed his rejection of any suspect contact with any regime that is still committed to the treacherous Camp David accords.

AL-BA'TH Criticizes U.S. Policy on Lebanon

JN060845 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 6 Jul 84

[Press review]

[Text] Today's newspapers comment on three main topics. They highlight the successful implementation of the security plan in Lebanon, and the great Lebanese popular support both for this plan and for the Syrian initiative which prepared the atmosphere for Lebanese reconciliation and stressed the need for Lebanon's deliverance. The significance of the new U.S.- Israeli threat to Syria and Lebanon becomes clear in light of this and in light of U.S. statements on the eternal alliance between Washington and Tel Aviv and the U.S. rejection of any non-American solution.

The third topic in today's press headlines is the Egyptian regime's attempts to spearhead a U.S. solution through a Paris conference — approved by Saddam Husayn — to propose an alternative to an international conference. These attempts are being made before Cheysson informs Shamir of the details of this solution.

In its comment, *AL-BA'TH* says the enemies' worries will not foil the success of the Lebanese security plan. *AL-BA'TH* adds: It is clear that any security success in Lebanon worries the anti-Lebanese sides, which do not want the Lebanese people to have unity or an Arab affiliation. However, this worry will not remain confined to media campaigns in Washington and Tel Aviv. There have been continuing attempts to put this concern into practical form by creating security disturbances, both by fomenting the clashes and by making threats within the diplomatic framework. These efforts have been fruitless.

The security plan is being implemented with great success, amid great popular support reaffirming the fraternal Lebanese people's aspirations for stability and security. Nevertheless, the enemies who engineered the invasion of Lebanon to disintegrate it and impose Zionist trusteeship on it will not stop trying to create confusion and disturbances, in the hope the implementation of the security plan will be delayed and its success in the past 3 days be stopped.

AL-BA'TH says: We all know how Israel moved in more than one direction in order to strike at the security plan. It bombed the north, committed acts of piracy at sea, and stepped up its terrorism and repression in southern Lebanon. Israel's actions again met with abject failure as a result of Lebanon's official and popular determination to support the security plan.

AL-BA'TH also points out that U.S. diplomacy issued threats and warnings during the Zionist moves. The U.S. ambassador in Tel Aviv stressed the eternal alliance between the U.S. Administration and Israel. Richard Fairbanks, former U.S. Middle East envoy, announced his country's rejection of any non-American decision in Lebanon.

The paper asks: Does this U.S. diplomatic escalation mean anything but displeasure with the success of the security plan and the popular support it enjoyed? Answering its question, *AL-BA'TH* says: This open hostility to Lebanon and its security affirms that the United States, strategically allied with Israel, will continue its attempts to create tension and anarchy in connection with the situation in the South and the so-called Israeli security. These attempts will eventually be aimed at imposing direct negotiations on southern Lebanon. This was officially rejected by Lebanon. It was also rejected on the popular level through the continuing resistance burning the soil of the south under the invaders' feet. The flames of resistance will undoubtedly increase the moment security is established and the Lebanese people are assured of their safety.

AL-BA'TH on Lebanon's Reconciliation, Arabism

JN051313 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 5 Jul 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the caption "Reconciliation March: Hope and Caution," *AL-BA'TH* says:

The Lebanese people have become aware of facts and supreme national demands. Tremendous though they are, pains must not be factors for disintegrating the salvation efforts. This is because the country's pains are more important than citizens' pains. All the Lebanese people are aware that their homeland will be in danger if they continue their highhanded interest in people's lives and if they continue to fight each other on unenviable things.

Now that improvement in the security situation has provided the climate for restoring Lebanon's unity, it is necessary that everyone must be aware of the traps which the greedy Zionists or those who stand to lose in this reconciliation process may prepare for them. Those who stand to lose are the agents of the enemies of the homeland and nation.

AL-BA'TH adds: The deployment of the Lebanese Army in Greater Beirut is the first step on a long path. This path will not be an easy one unless organizations and invidiuals become aware of the image of the enemy, which is lying in wait for them and which is gathering its forces to pounce on and destroy every Lebanese means of life.

In order not to lose optimism, the Lebanese people must applaud a unified homeland and realize it with their great determination, thus expressing their sincere affiliation to Lebanese soil.

While it is true that the process of collecting heavy weapons has started and that the national unity government is sincere toward the nation and people, it is also true that everyone must know that Israel invaded Lebanon in order to take revenge on every Lebanese citizen. This is because it is continuing to occupy southern Lebanon and is inflicting immense terror and suppression on the Lebanese people there.

There are persons in Lebanon who owe allegiance to Israel more than they do to the homeland. Israel has its own agents, and the United States also has agents who pledged to it that Lebanon would not serve its nation or owe allegiance to Arabism. Thus, everyone must be aware of dangers and plots. If we want the reconciliation march to triumph, we must understand the role which the enemies of Lebanon and reconciliation will play and the obstacles which they will place in order to harm the achievements which brought solace to people despite the fact that these achievements are the beginning of a long way.

AL-BA'TH made it clear that while the United States believed that Lebanon would become the second Camp David region and Israel believed that the Lebanese decisionmaking would be only in its hands and the hands of its tools, the main effort was concentrated on wiping out all sense of patriotism and citizenship in Lebanon. However, when the U.S. dream and the Israeli bets fell, the Lebanese people, the Arabs, and the whole word realized that Syria, which pledged to protect Arabism in Lebanon, had been stronger than Camp David and its pillars and more powerful than the *New Jersey* and the marines.

Concluding, *AL-BA'TH* says: Therefore, there is no way that any effort aimed against Lebanon's Arabism can succeed. Those who are sincere to Lebanon's security, unity, and independence have only to trust the march, which fraternal Syria wanted as a means of ending pain and serving the homeland and Arabism.

Downfall of Iraq's Saddam Husayn Predited

PM051556 Damascus ATH-THAWRAH in Arabic 1 Jul 84 p 2

[Muhammad Zuruf article: "The Area Is Awaiting a Regional Surprise"]

[Text] Iraq has for some time been the scene of a sweeping popular uprising in protest against Saddam's dirty war against the Iranian revolution. As news agencies confirm, that uprising has recently been mounting and spreading to Baghdad itself, which is why butcher Saddam has executed 60 youths for participating in the uprising. His aim was to frighten the Iraqi people and prevent then from sustaining their resistance.

Saddam's regime imposed a complete blackout on news of the uprising, but what has leaked out so far indicates the Iraqi regime may fall at any moment and its grave international crisis may destroy it. This is a realistic assumption. Saddam's mad war against the Iranian revolution will spell his end. That is why he is trying to escalate, widen, and internationalize the war. His aim

is to ward off the threat to his regime because he is under the illusion that involving others in the war will help the survival and continuation of his regime — a mistake by someone trying to be clever. The escalation of the war has backfired because the popular uprising in Iraqi has increased. Iraq will certainly witness more serious developments from now on. The regional surprise awaited in the area at present is the downfall of Saddam's regime.

According to reports emanating from Western capitals, various international circles are already considering the post-Saddam stage. Even that regime's friends are now acting on the assumption Saddam cannot go on and the Iraqi people will carry out the sentence passed against him sooner or later.

The popular uprising is only a prelude to a revolution of the masses in Iraq. All indications confirm the downfall of Saddam's regime is the only way to end the Iraqi-Iranian war. While awaiting further details of the dimensions and progress of the Iraqi people's current uprising, it is important to stress that the unity of the Iraqi democratic and patriotic forces remains the decisive factor. Saddam has been banking on the weaknesses of and peripheral differences between these forces and has thus managed to rule Iraq with steel and fire and turn it into a big prison where the worst kinds of torture and coercion are applied.

Shamir Foresees U.S. Pressure After Elections

TA060906 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 6 Jul 84 p 2

['Amram Gabay report]

[Excerpt] Speaking at an election rally in Bat-Yam last night, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir stated that "the United States is expected to exert pressure on Israel after the elections regarding concessions in Judaea and Samaria. However, I promise you that if the Likud remains in power there will be no such concessions. We are not afraid of pressure."

U.S. Involvement in Territories Spurs Anger

TA051348 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 5 Jul 84 p 9

[Amnon Raz report]

[Text] "The U.S. Department of State, through its consulate in Jerusalem, is again meddling in the territories." This was said in anger by a top Military Government officer in the Gaza Strip yesterday. The cause of the anger is an initiative taken by the Americans to coordinate the activities of foreign organizations providing financial aid to the territories, and this without asking Israel's opinion. As will be recalled, a month ago there was a conflict of opinions between Minister Arens and Secretary of State Weinberger [name as published] against the background of Israel's refusal to allow the entrance of U.S. and Saudi money into the territories.

At the end of June, a convention of all voluntary organizations operating in the territories was held in the United States. The purpose of this convention was to coordinate financial aid given to the territories. It was organized by Professor Hisham Shirabi, a rich Palestinian living in the United States, and was fully coordinated with the Jordanian authorities.

Every year the U.S. Administration allocates about $9 million to finance projects in the territories. The budget of all the other organizations amounts to about the same figure. Arab observers in the territories believe that U.S. initiatives to coordinate aid to the West Bank and the Gaza Strip are evidence of preparations toward renewing the U.S. initiative concerning the Palestinian issue following the presidential election.

Syrians Constructing Missile Dugouts in Al-Biqa'

TA060910 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 6 Jul 84 p 1

[Arab affairs correspondent Dan Avidan report]

[Excerpt] The Syrian Army has recently constructed dugouts for "heavy" SAM-2 and SAM-3 anti-aircraft missiles in the border area between Syria and Lebanon, opposite the town of Riyaq in Al-Biqa'. This was reported by travelers who have recently crossed the Syrian-Lebanese border in this area.

It should be noted that this is the first time that Syrian dugouts for SAM-2's and SAM-3's have been spotted near the Syrian-Lebanese border since the IDF destroyed the Syrian anti-aircraft batteries in the Peace for Galilee operation.

Ne'eman Claims Secret Alignment-Husayn Agreement

TA061000 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 6 Jul 84 p 3

[Ilan Shehori report]

[Text] Science and Development Minister Yuval Ne'eman, chairman of the Tehiya-Tzomet party list, said last night at a party meeting in the north Tel Aviv suburb of Afeqa that at the last Jewish congress held in Morocco — in which Alignment representatives took part — the foundation was laid for an interim agreement with King Husayn over Judaea and Samaria. Minister Ne'eman argued that during the Morocco congress, secret meetings were held between representatives of the Alignment and King Husayn in which the groundwork was laid for an interim agreement on Judaea and Samaria, much as the 1977 meeting between Moshe Dayan and Egypt's At-Tuhami in Morocco led to the agreement with Egypt.

Naval Commander Interviewed on Maritime Threats

TA051806 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] Real Admiral Ze'ev Almog, commander of Israel's Navy, says Israel is facing a new era of military danger from the sea, with the expansion of Arab fleets to include more than a hundred missile-carrying ships that can hit targets along Israel's coast from great distance. In an interview with reporter Alan Ben-'Ami to mark today's celebration of Navy Day, Adm Almog also says the Russians are keeping constant watch on Israel from spyships.

[Begin recording] [Ben-'Ami] Israel's navy commander says that Syria, Libya, and Saudi Arabia pose the most serious naval threats to Israel.

[Almog] Syria and Libya have been equipped with various sophisticated and modern vehicles and weapon systems which can attack the coast of Israel from big distances. Now the Saudi Arabian Navy has grown to big orbit since they got from the United States more than 13 missile boats or corvettes carrying missiles and Vulcan-Phalanx guns, so they are equipped with the best modern equipment and can easily reach the Mediterranean coast and threaten our sea lanes of communication and the coast of Israel.

[Ben-'Ami] You didn't mention Egypt at all. Now, in the Army sphere, Egypt has been building up its force — what about the naval arena?

[Almog] Well, Egypt is in peace with us. Isn't it? But if you ask about the Egyptian Navy, this navy is also reinforced by new equipment from Britain and from the United States, and still holds big amounts of vehicles from the Soviet Union. And recently they got a new boat from China, new submarines from China, and some other boats as well. So they are growing and reinforcing their capability. I hope for the future that they'll stay with peace with us.

[Ben-'Ami] Adm Almog says that the Soviets are giving varied support to Arab countries, especially Syria and Libya, support that includes equipment, training, and naval collaboration.

[Almog] The Soviet involvement in this arena is first of all reflected in scouting, let's say so, our coast. They approach very closely on our coast with spy ships, with submarines and others, but they — I must say — they act within the frame of the law, the international law, and in that respect you can't have any complaints. But they watch us all the time.

[Ben-'Ami] The Israel Navy is refitting to meet the challenges, with plans for new vessels of various types, sophisticated new weaponry and technologies. And the decade ahead will see important changes in the sea arena. [end recording]

Rifts in West Bank PLO Organizations Viewed

TA051501 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 5 Jul 84 p 6

[Pinhas 'Inbari commentary : "Revolution of the Silent"]

[Text] The West Bank has been more quiet and calm these days than it has been for a long time. From the political viewpoint, people are awaiting the results of the elections in Israel and the United States. The usually stormy internal political life in Judaea and Samaria appears dormant, but this is only an appearance. Underneath the cover of political calm a very significant process is under way, which undoubtedly has implications for the processes which the PLO itself is going through.

Those who meticulously follow what is happening in Judaea and Samaria now can hardly avoid realizing that Yasir 'Arafat is leading the PLO toward a split. By doing so he is relinquishing a long-standing policy of meticulously preserving the PLO's institutional unity in spite of violent ideological arguments and internal debates among its various organizations.

The first sign of 'Arafat's new line could be observed 3 years ago. An argument within the federation of trade unions of the West Bank, whose center is in Nabulus, between the Communists who controlled these unions and the other members who supported the radical organizations of George Habash and Nayif Hawatimah, ended in a split. After a while it transpired that the differences were not expressed in what could have been expected when the argument arose, that is between the Communists on the one hand and the PLO with all its factions (at the time it was primarily the rejectionist organizations of Habash and Hawatimah) on the other hand.

PLO supporters, headed by the trade union official (Shihadah al-Minawi) stood on one side, and all leftist organizations — Communists and the rejectionist organizations among whom the original argument arose — stood on the other. That means that in the West Bank trade unions there is a rift within the PLO itself — between 'Arafat on one hand and George Habash and Nayif Hawatimah on the other. Since the PLO rift in the territories contradicted Yasir 'Arafat's policy as far as PLO institutions "outside" were concerned, people tended to explain the incident in Nabulus as an exceptional case, in particular under the circumstances that prevailed in the territories at the time.

After some time it became clear that the split among the trade unions was not an isolated case. After the Lebanese war and Yasir 'Arafat's fierce battles against the Palestinian leftists, a new policy of 'Arafat supporters in the universities was evident. In the past, whenever there was a central event such as Palestinian week, all groups cooperated to make the event succeed; this year, after winning in most university elections (in all universities except for Bethlehem College, 'Arafat supporters refused to cooperate with members of radical organizations in the preparations. In Bir' Zayt, for instance, some 2 months ago tempers flared to such an extent that George Habash's supporters among the students expressed their anger at being excluded from organizing the event by burning the exhibition arranged by 'Arafat supporters.

Last month there was another development directly connected with what is going on in the PLO. One of the most prestigious Palestinian organizations is the general federation of Palestinian authors and journalists. The Palestinian writers express their unique Palestinian culture and, thanks to them, the Palestinians can take pride in their national culture. They believe that they are the sons of the Palestinian people and are distinct from any bloc of pan-Arab identity.

The prestige of the PLO federation affected a similar organization in East Jerusalem: "The Department of Palestinian Authors" sponsored by the "Philosophy Club." This club was established in the territories during the leftist period, or the time of the National Guidance Committee, as a counterweight to the big universities whose administrations were linked to the PLO and Jordan. The PLO was not satisfied with the situation in the authors department and in the philosophy club on the whole, but it was even more concerned with the situation of the general federation, because the institution — which unifies the Palestinian authors — was also under pro-Syrian leftist control. The fight for control over the federation was manifest, among other ways, in the murder of Hanna Muqbil, one of the heads of the federation, from the village of At-Tayyibah near Ramallah.

The pro-Syrian leftist control of the federation is reflected in the leadership of Secretary General (Yihya Yahlaf), a confirmed supporter of Syria whose permanent residence is in Damascus. Now that the struggles within the PLO have turned into civil war, Yasir 'Arafat has decided that this prestigious federation can no longer remain in the hands of his opponents. By means of a political maneuver he managed to convene a general assembly of Palestinian authors in Aden, and to elect a new general secretariat headed by (Mahmud Darwish), a former Israeli citizen who is loyal to 'Arafat.

The pro-Syrians did not recognize the legality of 'Arafat's maneuvers. They claim that the general assembly in Aden was illegally convened because it had not been approved by Secretary General (Yihya Yahlaf). For them there is another federation, headed by the previous secretary, who is loyal to Syria. Hence, what first erupted in Judaea and Samaria can be felt in the whole of the PLO: Just as there is a federation of trade unions of the leftist organizations and another federation by the exact same name headed by 'Arafat supporters, there is within the PLO itself a federation of authors who are loyal to 'Arafat and a rival federation by the same name headed by leftist organizations. The process of splitting up, which was first seen in the territories, continued in the PLO.

"The Department of Authors" which is under leftist control in East Jerusalem, thought it appropriate to publicize a statement against 'Arafat's maneuvers; it was a call for war against the minority of pro-'Arafat members. The latter left the department while strongly criticizing the way it is run. They are now organizing in order to establish a separate authors organization of 'Arafat supporters. The first sign of the impending rift appeared last summer, when 'Arafat's supporters and the leftists were unable to arrange the traditional exhibition of works by Palestinian authors in the territories, an event that has taken place regularly over the last 3 years.

But that is not the entire picture. The disintegration process is not limited to just the PLO and the leftists; inside the leftist camp itself there is no unity between the Communists and Habash-Hawatimah supporters. There is a split as well among the supporters of the two leftist organizations. This, too, is reflected in the establishment of identically named public institutions which compete for members and influence. For instance, there are two federations of general trade unions: two branches in Ramallah and two branches in East Jerusalem, and all this within the leftist federation.

This process has a clear meaning. This time 'Arafat is preparing the ground for a split within the PLO according to the outcome of the elections in Israel and in the United States. If, indeed, there is a new government in Israel, 'Arafat will try to enter the political process. If the rejectionist organizations join him, PLO unity will be preserved, but if they refuse to do so, the rifts in the territories and the split in the federation of authors may turn out to be the beginning of a rift within the PLO itself.

'Secret' Poll: Likud Electoral Decline Halted

TA060800 Tel AVIV HADASHOT in Hebrew 6 Jul 84 p 2

[Ilan Kfir report]

[Excerpt] A secret poll conducted by the Likud toward the end of this week shows for the first time that the Likud has arrested its decline and is beginning to close the gap with the Alignment. *HADASHOT* has learned that the findings of the Likud poll point to a tendency among "the floating votes" to backtrack and vote for the Likud in the upcoming elections.

The current poll gives the Likud 38 Knesset seats compared to 36 seats in previous secret polls. The Likud polls estimate the Alignment's strength at approximately 50 seats, identical to its strength at the end of the outgoing Knesset's term.

The poll indicates an upward trend among the small parties, particularly regarding Tehiya with 5 to 6 seats, and Weizman's Yahad with approximately 5 seats. The National Religious Party remains stable with approximately 4 seats, as in previous polls.

Two days ago, the Alignment conducted a telephone poll among a sample of television spectators. The Alignment's poll tallies with the Likud's poll, indicating a halt to the Likud's decline and, for the first time, showing a tendency among the "floating votes" to vote once again for the Likud.

Poll Shows Little Confidence in Likud Economics

TA060728 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 6 Jul 84 p 3

[Hanokh and Rafi Smith public opinion poll]

[Text] The public has significantly greater confidence in the Alignment's ability to handle the country's economic problems than it does in the Likud's, the Smith Research Centre June poll shows.

Only 24 percent of those polled felt the Likud could better handle the economy, compared to 48 percent who said the Alignment. The remaining 28 percent was undecided.

Twenty percent thought the Likud was more capable of handling inflation, to 46 for the Alignment. In no area was the gap between the two so wide.

Only 17 percent agreed with the statement "The government will succeed in preserving a stable economy," while 55 percent clearly disagreed. The remaining 54 percent stated no clear opinion. [figures as published]

Before the recent passage of the law protecting public savings, 54 percent felt the government was unable to preserve the real value of the public's savings, with 25 percent saying it was capable of doing this.

By 48 to 25 percent plurality, the public felt that because of the election economy, Finance Minister Yig'al Kohen-Orgad was losing control of the economy.

When the poll was taken during June 10-14, 50 percent reported that their standard of living had fallen over the past few months, and 33 percent said it had not.

Only 20 percent of those interviewed in the June poll agreed that former Finance Minister Yoram Aridor's "correct economics" were actually correct, and 60 percent disagreed. And 29 percent thought that the Likud was on the right path, while 55 percent did not.

All the data together gave a picture of an electorate troubled by economic matters and by the Likud's treatment of them. Perhaps the most revealing point was the reaction to the following statement: "A wise person is one who buys black market dollars." 58 percent agreed, while only 19 percent disagreed, the rest abstaining.

But if this picture is bleak for the Likud, all is not bright for the Alignment. While, as noted, slightly less than half of those interviewed said the Alignment is better for the economy than the Likud, in answer to another question 43 percent said they thought no party could solve today's economic problems. Only 34 percent said they thought one of the two parties could solve the problems.

Responding to other questions, the public indicated skepticism as to whether either party had formulas that would solve today's problems. For example, 38 percent thought the Alignment's

economic plans could produce a healthy economy, 30 percent disagreed, and 32 percent were undecided or had no opinion.

The major parties take great pains in their election campaigns to assure voters that they will avoid severe economic measures if elected, but the public is apparently unconvinced. To the statement "No matter which party is elected, after the election there will be severe economic measures," 75 percent of those polled answered in the affirmative and only nine percent did not agree.

As previously published, the June poll showed that the Alignment had a lead of 44 percent to 28 percent over the Likud among Jewish voters.

East Jerusalem Arabs, Police Involved in Fight

TA051822 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] A fight occurred a short while ago in East Jerusalem between Arab residents and five border police officers, some of them in plain clothes. The fight broke out following a request by police for water. The request resulted in altercations and fist-fights. Three of the residents, and among them a man of approximately 60 years of age, were detained for interrogation.

Arab Youths Submit Complaint Over Treatment

TA051855 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] An Arab youth who was wounded in the shooting incident 2 days ago near Rachel's Tomb in Bethlehem was detained in Bayt Jala's state hospital.

He is suspected of inciting and arranging the brawl that took place in the course of the incident. He was arraigned after the hospital's director confirmed that he was healthy.

Five youths were wounded in the incident by bullets fired by border police soldiers. Today the youths submitted a complaint to the security establishment, saying that the border police harassed them and opened fire on them for no reason.

They wrote that the police stopped the buses they were on in the course of a planned trip to the northern part of the country, and forced them to wait a long time. They claim that a border police officer instructed them to sit down and stand up alternately, and pistol-whipped one of them.

Security sources have told our correspondent that the police followed orders and abided by regulations, and stopped the bus only to prevent instigators associated with the PLO, who wanted to incite the Arabs of Israel, from taking action.

The security sources said that there was no harassment of the bus passengers. or use of force.

Ramallah Arab Not Allowed To Leave for Paris

TA060750 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 6 Jul 84 p 4

[Pinhas 'Inbari report]

[Text] The military government has barred Raymonda at-Tawil of Ramallah from crossing the Jordan Bridges in order to fly to Paris to participate in a French television program about the Israeli movie "Hamsin." Senior French journalists are also scheduled to take part in the program, along with At-Tawil. Our correspondent points out that Jordan has banned inhabitants of the West Bank from flying via Ben-Gurion Airport.

LIBYA

Joint Committee With Cuba Meets in Tripoli

LD051825 Tripoli JANA in English 1754 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] Tripoli, 7 Shawal, 5 July, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Libyan Arab-Cuban Joint Committee this morning held a meeting in Tripoli as part of its sixth session. The meeting was attended by the secretary for the General People's Committee for Public Utilities and responsible for housing and number of experts from various secretaries and corporations.

From the Cuban side the meeting was attended by Ricardo Cabrizas Ruiz, minister for foreign trade in Cuba and his accompanying delegation.

At the begining of the session the Cuban minister gave a speech in which he stressed that his country is keen to promote and strengthen cooperation with the people of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah in all fields. Four sub-committees were formed, whose function is to study the future of mutual cooperation in various fields. The sub committees are: 1) Technical, Scientific and Cultural Cooperation. 2) Trade Exchange and Foreign Investment. 3) Economic Cooperation, Transport and Construction. 4) Coordination.

Al-Qadhdhafi Asks Officials to Convey Messages

LD061036 Tripoli JANA in English 0926 GMT 6 Jul 84

[Text] Tripoli, Shawal 8, July 6, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the revolution received, yesterday, Dr. Miftah al-Usta 'Umar, secretary of the General People's Congress [title and organization as received], Dr. 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad at-Turayki, secretary of the People's Committee for Foreign Liaison, People's Bureau and Muhammad al-Zayl [not further identified]. He assigned them to the task of delivering written messages to kings and head of states of the Arab countries concerned with the joint Arab action in strategic and fateful issues of the Arab nation. He also provided them with his directive in this respect.

SUDAN

Former Communications Minister Killed

EA052022 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] A murder took place at noon today. Mr Mahmud Hasib, former minister of communications and governor of South Kurdufan Province, was the victim.

The SUDAN NEWS AGENCY learned that Mr Mahmud Hasib was shot with a revolver and killed in his office at the Arab Trading Company factory near the Abu Haraz satellite station, south of Khartoum, at 12:30 today.

Muhammad 'Uthman al-Maqbul, a son of Umm (Rawabah), former administrative officer in South Kurdufan Province, was arrested. He was carrying a revolver in the office of Mr Habib. The victim died immediately after being hit twice, one bullet in the head, the other in the shoulder.

SUNA's investigations say it has become fundamentally clear the crime was perpetrated due to personal differences. The accused worked as an administrative officer in the South Kurdufan Province when Mr Mahmud Hasib was its governor. He left Sudan for a time, and returned in January this year. The case was referred to the Emergency Office of the Prosecutor of the national capital, which began immediately to take necessary steps.

It is worth mentioning that the late Mr Mahmud Hasib assumed the post of communications minister between 1969 and 1970. He later assumed the post of governor of South Kurdufan Province between 1978 and 1979. He was relieved of his post on 28 November and since has not occupied any constitutional posts.

TUNISIA

Former Economy Minister Returns Home

LD032221 Kuwait KUNA in English 1828 GMT 3 Jul 84

[Text] Tunis, July 3 (KUNA) — Former Tunisian Economy Minister Ahmad Ben Saleh, who lived in his Parisian exile since 1973 after fleeing the country has returned home, the independent weekly newspaper *AL-'ILAN* said Tuesday.

The newspaper said Ben Saleh was allowed back in Tunisia "after Algerian mediations and personal guarantees of Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid."

The report comes only a few weeks after a spokesman for the Tunisian Government had denied press reports that Ben Saleh would be allowed to re-enter the country and that President Habib Bourguiba was the only person authorized to make such a decision. There was no government word on today's report. Ben Saleh fled Tunisia in 1973 after serving three out of a 10-year prison term for the failure of his economic nationalization policy.

The politician, who used to be Tunisia's former strongman, was the secretary general of the country's Labor Union in 1953. He laid down a grand plan for economic and social reforms for the whole Arab Maghreb which the ruling Socialist Destourian Party adopted in the early 1960's.

KENYA

Briefs

Assistant Ministers Moved — His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi today announced the appointment and transfer of assistant ministers affecting three ministries. Mr Omar Soba, who has been an assistant minister for agriculture and livestock development, has been transferred to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. Mr John Keriri who has been an assistant minister for commerce and industry moves to the Ministry of Transport and Communications. Mr John Michuki is the new assistant minister for commerce and industry. [Excerpt][Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1015 GMT 3 Jul 84 EA]

New Envoy to Yugoslavia — Belgrade, July 3 (KNA) — Kenya's new ambassador to Yugoslavia, Mr B.E. Nwangi, presented his credentials to President Veselin Djuranovic of Yugoslavia on 28 June this year. [Nairobi KNA in English 1415 GMT 3 Jul 84 EA]

SOMALIA

Somali Front Claims RSA To Use Kismayu Port

EA041518 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 3 Jul 84

[Text] As we are all aware, the dictatorial Mogadishu regime recently sent its first vice president on a long mission covering countries such as Kenya, Botswana, Lesotho, Zambia, and which finally, and secretly, took him to Swaziland, which was not in his initial program, so he could have private talks with officials from apartheid South Africa. During their talks he managed to convey messages to the South African leaders. The messages contained details of problems currently confronting the regime and the assistance it requires.

In exchange, reactionary Ali Samatar's major objective was to go down on his knees to request and convince the Pretoria regime to use the facilities at Kismayu port in southern Somalia, contrary to the wishes of the Somali people and in violation of their sovereignty, and indeed in violation of international organizations and of human rights organizations in their fight against the apartheid regime of South Africa, which is known for its policies of suppression and racial discrimination against liberation fronts.

The aim of the South African regime in using Kismayu port is to establish a base for attacks on governments in the Horn of Africa. On the other hand, Barre's regime is not ashamed of selling Somali land, which is so precious to its people, to foreigners. Earlier he granted military bases to the Reagan administration, in Berbera, Kismayu, and Mogadishu in return for several million dollars to buy arms which he could use to silence the Somali people who are opposed to his oppressive regime. The Somali masses, who are famous for their hatred of colonialism, have no choice but to openly confront the so-called regime, the terrorist regime, of Mogadishu, which has today sold Kismayu port to the South African regime. Liberation fronts vehemently condemn the dying regime of Mogadishu for selling the port of Kismayu to the Pretoria regime and will answer it with attacks against the bases of General Barre's forces. Victory to the liberation fronts and defeat to Siad and his stooges.

CAMEROON

Nucci Says Cameroonian-French Relations 'Excellent'

AB051845 Dakar PANA in French 1245 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] Yaounde, 5 Jul (CAMNEWS/PANA) — "Relations between Cameroon and France are excellent and they have never been as good as now," Christian Nucci, the French minister of cooperation and development, said yesterday in Yaounde.

Mr Nucci, who had just been received by the Cameroonian head of state Paul Biya at the Presidential Palace, also affirmed that relations between France and Cameroon "are better than ever and not as good as they will be in the future."

The Unity Palace guest, who denied the rumors of a certain press asserting that there was uneasiness in Franco-Cameroonian relations, said: "At the request of the French president, I was the first government official to come to your country (Cameroon). At any rate, I am not at all concerned by the journalist's analysis."

After announcing that President Biya had invited him for an official visit to Cameroon next fall, Mr Nucci explained the aim of this visit. It will enable the two countries to discuss bilateral cooperation problems "not because things are bad, but because you have to be on the field to see how things are going."

The French minister of cooperation and development made it a point to justify his forthcoming visit to Cameroon: "The quality and depth of France-Cameroonian relations make it compulsory for the representatives of the French Government to be present in Cameroon. But we preserve what we are deeply committed to — our mutual independence." He took the opportunity of his visit to the Cameroonian capital to introduce to President Biya French MP Claude Michel, chairman of the French-Cameroonian friendship group and deputy president of production and exchanges at the French National Assembly.

The discussions between Christian Nucci and the Cameroonian head of state also centered on political problems. President Biya spoke of the political situation in Cameroon. On this matter, Mr Nucci declared: "We later made a broad survey of African problems." The renewal of the Lome convention, the planning of the OAU summit, and the recent developments in Chad have been discussed.

Concerning Chad, Mr Nucci said that he met President Hissein Habre on Tuesday and discussed the internal Chadian situation with him. During the discussion, President Habre told him "about the measures taken to create a sole party (National Union for Independence and Revolution) in order to bring together Chadian politicians and rally all his fellow citizens." The talks also touched on the general economic situation and the reconstruction of Chad, the first beneficiary of French assistance in the central African subregion. Mr Nucci, who said he had been in Ndjamena within the framework of the preliminary contacts before the Brazzaville conference on national reconciliation in Chad, disclosed his country's position [words indistinct].

CHAD

Reconciliation Talks To Be Held in Brazzaville

AB051625 Paris AFP In French 1529 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] Ndjamena, 5 Jul (AFP) — According to an official communique issued in Ndjamena on Thursday, the Chadian national reconciliation talks will be held in Brazzaville, Congo; therefore, preparations are underway to enable it to take place as soon as possible. This communique follows unofficial information received from Ndjamena about the possibility of the conference taking place in Libreville, Gabon.

"It is an undeniable fact that the Chadian authorities do not have preference for any particular place," the communique issued in Ndjamena added. Their main concern is for Chadians to meet, discuss their problems, and find a solution that will lead to long-lasting peace in Chad.

"The transfer of the negotiating table to Libreville cannot be given any consideration in Ndjamena," the communique continued, "especially as we are gradually heading towards the holding of the meeting in Brazzaville, even if the exact date has not been fixed."

Finally, according to the communique, the next national reconciliation meeting must include the Chadian Government and the various opposition groups.

French Minister Holds Talks With Hissein Habre

AB051110 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 3 Jul 84

[Summary] "The French cooperation minister, Christian Nucci, who arrived in Ndjamena yesterday, is expected to give a press conference within a few minutes, at 2000. This morning the minister briefly visited Ati in the Batha region and on his return held a private round of talks with the head of state, President Hissein Habre. Then the French and Chadian delegations met for a luncheon. On the French side along with the cooperation minister were Claude Soubeste, French ambassador to Chad; General (LeClair), head of the military cooperation mission; and Claude Michel, socialist parliamentarian. On the Chadian side there were President Hissein Habre; (Baefde) Abdou, chairman of the National Consultative Council; and Korom Hamet, secretary of state for foreign affairs and cooperation. After the the luncheon, our reporter Zoumana Ngardianka first asked Mr Nucci about the issues at the center of the talks he had with the President of the Republic."

[Begin recording] [Nucci] "I was honored by President Hissein Habre who received me for more than 1 hour and it was obvious that Chadian problems were at the center of our talks." We discussed the progress made so far concerning the proposed conference in Brazzaville. "Finally, we talked about problems of bilateral cooperation within the framework of my responsibilities."

[Ngardianka] Mr Minister, Chad has requested a meeting of the French-Chadian joint commission. Has a date been fixed in this respect? If so, where will the meeting take place?

[Nucci] This joint commission met a very long time ago for reasons that you know and which I do not want to come back to. "As for France, it wants the commission to meet within a reasonable time. You know that as far as the joint commission is concerned, each side must contribute to it what it has. It requires efforts from both sides but we have to take into consideration the particular situation of your country. My suggestion — which has been approved by the head of state — is that we should have a joint planning commission which would define priority objectives for 1985 and 1986 and beyond and the means to achieve them, and at the same time we should determine the progress of the projects being implemented."

"In conclusion, I would say that this meeting, that I would call French-Chadian joint planning commission, would be held between 10 and 22 November; the date is to be fixed taking into account the Bujumbura summit conference." As the president wishes, the commission will meet in Ndjamena, will be well prepared, will concern several sectors and should be able to deal with all the problems to be presented to us by the Chadian authorities.

[Ngardianka] "Mr Minister, one last question; a new policy of cooperation was recently defined by your ministry. What will be the consequences for Chad?"

[Nucci] As for me, I would say that the policy we have just defined is in accordance with the new elements which have occurred, that is the economic crisis, development difficulties, the raw materials prices which continue to decrease, and concerning your country, the situation that you know. "Of course, the policy of cooperation is first of all aimed at meeting food requirements. This is one of the priorities of the government of your country and it is obvious that we will make particular efforts especially in the field of rural water supply, rural development in general, and to enable the farmers to produce enough to feed themselves and also to be able to work. Cotton production was good this year. There is certainly further progress to be made." Our principle is participation, joint development, very close association of the various partners and making them responsible, and need for truth between the partners. "This is the policy we have been following for some months now and I think that we will continue in this way. It is obvious that in view of your country's particular situation, it will receive all the attention of my government and I personally will make sure that particular efforts are made for your country." [end recording]

Visits French Military Unit

AB051242 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1845 GMT 3 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Christian Nucci [French minister delegate to the Ministry of External Affairs for Cooperation], today visited Ati for 2 and 1/2 hours. The minister, who was accompanied by Chadian Public Works Minister Hassan Djamous, first visited the construction site of the Ndjamena-Abeche road which is being financed through French cooperation. While in Ati, Mr Nucci also visited the French military detachment stationed there as well as market where the people crowded around him. Our colleague Mohamed Saleh, who also was on the journey, interviewed the minister:

[Begin recording] [Saleh] Mr Minister, you are in Ati where there is a detachment of Operation "Manta." How did you find the morale of the troops you visited this morning?

[Nucci] I and those who accompanied me found that the morale of the men was excellent. There is no doubt that they are in good condition to accomplish their mission. In addition to their real mission, they are engaged in a number of humanitarian tasks such as the dispatch of food aid [words indistinct]. [end recording]

CONGO

Bulgarian Premier Begins 3-Day Visit, Comments

AB051500 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French
1230 GMT 4 Jul 84

[Text] The chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers, Comrade Grisha Filipov, has been in Brazzaville since this morning at the invitation of Prime Minister Comrade Louis Sylvain Goma. He will pay a 3-day official visit to Congo. At the Brazzaville airport, the Bulgarian premier [words indistinct]. Antoine [name indistinct], you were present when Comrade Filipov arrived this morning.

[Antoine] The Bulgarian special plane (JS 404 B-1) which brought Comrade Grisha Filipov and his delagation touched down at the Maya-Maya International Airport at 1000 local time. The chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria was welcomed by Colonel Louis Sylvain Goma, head of the goverment. The welcome granted to the Bulgarian statesman, who is visiting Congo for the first time, was marked by a militant atmosphere which was heightened by the presence of members of the Political Bureau and of the Central Committee of the Congolese Labor Party, PCT. We also noted the presence of the Bulgarian community. Briefly, the warm friendly atmosphere which marked the welcoming ceremony sets the tone of the visit. Comrade Grisha Filipov is accompanied by an important delegation consisting of 34 officials, among whom is Comrade Grisha Filipov's wife. What significance can be given to this visit? What will be discussed during the official talks and negotiations? Listen to the interview granted us this morning by Comrade Grisha Filipov in the VIP lounge of the Maya-Maya International Airport.

[Begin recording in Bulgarian fading into French translation] [Filipov] The purpose of our visit is to confirm the bilateral cooperation agreements that we have already signed in various fields which are of great importance to the Congolese people. I think we must also discuss with Comrade Goma the concrete measures that need to be taken so that the agreements that we have already signed can be implemented more rapidly. We also have to think of other ways to permit us to extend our cooperation so that the People's Republic of Bulgaria can more actively participate in the implementation of your country's program of

reconstruction which is aimed at transforming both the economy and the entire society for the improvement and enrichment of the life of the Congolese people. The very fact that we are visiting your country on the eve of the congress of your great party gives us an opportunity to go beyond our formal subjects of discussion. We can try to review the prospects for cooperation so that they can serve as an important link in the execution of the tasks and achievement of objectives that your congress will have to approve.

[Antoine] You are currently on a tour of Africa as leader of a delegation. What is the significance of the Brazzaville leg of this trip?

[Filipov] We attach special importance to our visit to Brazzaville, the Republic of Congo, and we think that this visit should result in raising our cooperation to a higher level. We also attach very special importance to your country's efforts on the international scene which favor gradual, revolutionary changes in Africa and especially in the southern part of Africa. We are aware of the efforts and struggles of your party, people, and state for this progressive developmental trend in southern Africa and in Africa as a whole. I think our current visit will be a sort of support for your country's policy connection. It is also a fresh contribution of our two countries, our two peoples, the leaderships of our parties to the strengthening of peace and understanding among peoples and to the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, racism, and apartheid. It will also be a support for all the peoples of Africa, notably those of southern Africa, and to all peoples struggling for freedom and independence and for progressive development in their countries. [end recording]

Right about now, Comrade Grisha Filipov is attending a private luncheon. Earlier, at 1130 he went to the Marien Ngouabi Mausoleum where he laid a wreath. At 1530 a first round of private talks is scheduled to take place between Grisha Filipov and Louis Sylvain Goma at the People's Palace. The private talks will be followed by extended talks. At 2000 this evening, the Congolese prime minister will host an official banquet in honor of our guest and his delegation at Mbabou Bala. This is the first day's program.

ZAIRE

Approval Given For New Radio Transmitters

EA051405 Dakar PANA in French 1030 GMT 3 Jul 84

[Text] Kinshasa, 3 July (AZAP/PANA) — The Zairean Government Executive Council, at a meeting last Friday chaired by Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, president of the MPR, Zaire's state party, asked the State Commissioner for Information and MOPAP [Mobilization, Propaganda, and Political Action] "to pursue all the required procedures for putting up transmitters at ground-stations to improve the range of Voice of Zaire".

This concerns the 14 FM broadcasting transmitters which the French Government has offered to the Zairean Government to help it rehabilitate its broadcasting network. In fact, Zaire has a modern network of satelite telecommunications codenamed "Rezatelsat" made up of 13 ground-stations and 17 television transmission centers set up throughout the country, thus allowing maximum radio and television coverage for this large territory.

The radio transmitters were obtained following the president of the Republic's official working visit to France last April during which Zaire asked France to put as a matter of priority on the agenda of negotiations on bilateral cooperation the rehabilitation of radio and television transmitters, as well as an extension of television coverage to the rural areas.

Nigeria's Neighbors Affected by Border Closure

AB051240 Paris AFP in English 1207 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] Paris, July 5 (AFP) — Countries bordering Nigeria — Benin, Niger, Chad and Cameroon — are suffering economically as a result of the closure of Nigeria's borders, decreed by the country's six-month-old military regime on April 22. The border closure, which has also affected nearby Togo, has added to the effects of the current West African drought and economic crisis.

West Africa's economic giant is a supplier of oil to its neighbours and much food aid transits with other products through Lagos port.

The Nigerian Government, which came to power in a coup last December 31, justified the measure by the need to stamp out a black market in the Nigerian currency which was operating in neighbouring countries.

The closure was announced two days before the launch of a currency switch aimed at preventing Nigerians from continuing to illegally hold large amounts of the country's money abroad. While the currency black markets have been partially dried up by the move, the halting of trade between Nigeria and its neighbours has had serious effects on vital supplies for some regions, analysts said.

Hardest-hit is southern Chad where several deaths from hunger have been reported recently, particularly around the town of Doba located near the Cameroon border. Food supplies for the war-torn country usually transit through either Nigeria via Niger or through Cameroon.

Although Nigeria temporarily re-opened its border with Niger on June 7 for the sole purpose of allowing aid convoys for Chad to get through, consumer prices in the land-locked country have risen considerably as a result of the border closure.

The move was also partly aimed at halting a flourishing transit trade in Western goods being smuggled into Nigeria through neighbouring countries, thereby avoiding Nigeria's stringent foreign exchange controls, analysts said.

Sales of some traders in Benin have fallen by around 80 percent since the measure was announced. In neighbouring Togo, the retail trade in textiles, controlled by the country's "vama benz", or market women, has also suffered considerably.

But the closure has also cut supplies or goods exported, or re-exported, by Nigeria to its neighbours, the analysts said, although the Nigerian authorities have however occasionally lifted the measure to allow some oil and food aid to get through.

Niger has reached a one-off agreement for the supply of Nigerian oil during the closure, and some food supplies are still continuing to flow across its 1,000 kilometre (620-mile) border with Nigeria.

The flourishing trade in cigarettes between Niger and Nigeria has never been stopped by the closure, however. Although Nigeria is Niger's second largest trading partner, after France, the Niger Government has advised traders to try and seek outlets and sources of supply elsewhere, as nobody is banking on the Nigerian measure being lifted in the near future.

In Cameroon, the authorities are worried that the drying up of low-price imports from Nigeria is likely to fuel inflation. Industry ministry officials in Yaounde are also concerned that the measure may eventually affect certain exports of Cameroonian consumer goods, particularly meat, drinks and textiles.

The border closure has by no means put an end to the black market in the naira, Nigeria's currency, in neighbouring countries, according to recent press reports from Nigeria. After an initial drop in black market trading due to the closure, the naira is now changing hands at 125 CFA francs (30 U.S. cents), far below the official rate of 550 CFA (1.30 dollars), the reports said.

NIGERIA

Dikko Kidnapped in London, Nigerian Plane Detained

AB060724 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 6 Jul 84

[Text] Nigeria's most wanted man, Alhaji Umaru Dikko, was yesterday reported kidnapped in London by two black armed men. According to foreign agency reports, Umaru Dikko, the transport minister in the ousted civilian regime, was said to have resisted abduction but was forced into a van by his kidnappers. However, the latest report from the British capital says Umaru Dikko was later found in a (?grave) condition at the Stansted Airport northeast of London. He is one of those who fled the country after the overthrow of the former regime and subsequently declared wanted by the present military government for economic sabotage. Others still in hiding include Adisa Akinloye, Joseph Wayas, and a businessman, Ishiako Ibrahim.

Meanwhile, the Federal Military Government says it has come to its notice that a Nigerian crew and aircraft have been detained by the British authorities. It adds that no explanations have been given by the British for their action. The government explains that the public will be informed of further developments and urged all persons to remain calm.

More on Kidnapping

AB061225 Lagos NAN in English 1213 GMT 6 Jul 84

[By Rowland Nwachukwu]

[Text] London, Jul 6 (NAN) — Nigeria's most wanted fugitive, Umaru Dikko, is recovering in a London hospital today after he was rescued by the British police last night from a nailed-up crate at the Stansted Airport. Dikko, described by the British press as the "wheeler-dealer strongman" of the ousted Shagari government, was one of three men found unconscious in a crate at Stansted Airport, northeast of London, several hours after he was allegedly abducted from his 300,000 naira house in Porschester Terrace, west London.

The exact identity and whereabouts of the two other men are not known, according to the Western Europe correspondent of the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN). First reports quoted doctors at a hospital in London as saying that one of the men was dead, but police sources later denied the report.

A freight aircraft was stopped from leaving Stansted Airport which was invaded by police after the alleged kidnapping of Dikko at about mid-day yesterday by two armed men who were said to have sprung from hiding as he took a stroll in his garden.

No official British information has yet been released about the event at Stansted Airport. But the prime minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, is quoted in the British press as having protested directly to the Federal Military Government over the Dikko affair.

Dikko, a former transport minister in the ousted President Shagari government, escaped from Nigeria shortly after the military coup on News Year's Eve. Within a month of his escape, he said in a television interview in London that he would use everything at his disposal to overthrow the Federal Military Government.

In an article titled "Renegade on the Run," published today, a London newspaper, *DAILY MAIL*, estimated Dikko's fortune to be n1.2 billion.

Government Denies Involvement

AB061104 Paris AFP in English 1054 GMT 6 Jul 84

[Text] Lagos, Jul 6 (AFP) — Wada Maida, spokesman for Nigerian head of state Muhammadu Buhari, today denied any government involvement in the kidnapping in London of former Transport Minister Umaru Dikko.

Mr Maida, speaking as a military parade celebrating Army day passed through central Lagos, said the government was surprised that a Nigerian plane and its crew had been detained by the authorities in Britain.

Mr Dikko and either two or three other men, according to different reports, were found unconscious in a wooden crate marked "diplomatic baggage" due to be loaded on to a Nigeria Airways plane at Stansted Airport, near London, last night.

Police were keeping watch on ports and airports after Mr Dikko, who fled to Britain after the military coup that brought Major General Buhari to power last December, was seized outside his London home.

Mr Maida said the presence of a Nigerian diplomat at the airport when the crate was opened "can only be a coincidence." As he was speaking, the news that a British Caledonian plane was being detained in Lagos had not been reported. The spokesman said an offical government statement would be released later today.

UK Plane Still in Lagos

AB061238 Lagos NAN in English 1232 GMT 6 Jul 84

[Text] Lagos, Jul 6 (NAN) — A Nigerian aircraft with its crew has been detained by the British authorities, the Federal Military Government announced last night.

In a statement issued by the chief press secretary to the head of state, Alhaji Wada Maida, the Federal Military Government said that "no explanation has been given by the British for this action." The statement said that the public would be informed of further developments and that "all persons are asked to remain calm."

Meanwhile, a British Caledonian Boeing 747 aircraft which was scheduled to operate flight BR366 from Lagos to London at 10 pm yesterday had not yet taken off.

London Details Events

LD060952 London PRESS ASSOCIATION in English 0752 GMT 6 Jul 84

[Excerpts] The Nigerian military regime today detained a British Caledonian aircraft, with its crew and passengers, in a "tit-for-tat" move over a bizarre bid to kidnap exiled former Nigerian government minister Alhaji Umaru Dikko. Mr Dikko and at least two other men were found yesterday at Stansted Airport Essex in crates marked "diplomatic baggage" and bound for Lagos. They had been drugged.

And today, several Nigerians were among 14 people arrested and being questioned in London by Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist squad.

Meanwhile, as a major diplomatic row was growing, the Nigerian high commissioner, Major General Hananiya, was summoned to the Foreign Office today to give a detailed explanation of yesterday's events.

And ministers were immediately faced with a series of delicate diplomatic decisions involving a former colony which has long been one of Britian's best friends and trading partners in Africa. Mr Dikko, brother-in-law of imprisoned former President Shagari and described as Nigeria's "most wanted" man, was today recovering in hospital.

He had been found in a 5 feet square crate with another man who was conscious and who police believe was acting as Mr Dikko's minder or doctor. Two Middle Eastern mercenaries were found also conscious lying in a second crate. The crates, discovered last night on board a Nigerian Airlines Boeing 707 at Stansted were fastened from the outside by straps.

A British customs officer opened the crates, described as "diplomatic pouches", in the presence of a representative from the Nigerian High Commission.

All crew members on board the Nigerian plane were detained by the Scotland Yard C13 anti-terrorist branch.

It was understood the detainees were being questioned at London's top security Paddington Green police station. Detectives also were examining the aircraft.

C13 officers were expected to interview Mr Dikko at the Herts and Essex Hospital, Bishop's Stortford, where his condition was described as "stable".

The yard's anti-terrorist squad last night also swooped on Luton Airport, which like Stansted is used for Nigerian cargo flights.

It is understood Scotland Yard received information in the early hours of this morning that the British Caledonian jet was being held in Lagos.

Meanwhile, the Nigerian Airways aircrft, which was to have carried the crates, was still parked next to the Stansted terminal building under a police guard.

Maj Gen Hananiya brushed aside reporters' questions as he arrived at the Foreign Office today. "I have no comment to make. I have been summoned here", he said as his official Rolls-Royce pulled up at the Foreign Office ambassadors' entrance. He said he did not know what he would be saying in the hastily called meeting.

Britain's high commissioner in Lagos, Mr Hamilton Whyte, was today trying to establish why the British airliner was being detained at Lagos. His staff were offering whatever assistance they could to the Britons on board the aircraft.

The Nigerian high commissioner emerged from the Foreign Office after a half-hour meeting with Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe, and denied his country was responsible for the kidnap attempt. "Impossible," he said. "My country does not get involved in things like that."

He refused to disclose the tone or substance of the meeting with Sir Geoffrey. "That is a message between the British Government and the Nigerian Government and I'm going to pass the minister's message back to my government."

The high commissioner, flanked by official aides, insisted he had no knowledge of yesterday's events. "I'm not aware of that," he said when pressed on the reported role of a commission official in the affair. Nor was he aware of the detention of a British Caledonian airliner.

Asked if he approved of the kidnapping of Nigerians in London, he simply shook his head and said nothing.

Pushing through a crowd of reporters and photographers, Maj Gen Hananiya took his seat in the back of his official black Rolls-Royce and drove off.

Maj Gen Hananiya arrived back at the commission looking cheerful after his talks at the Foreign Office. As he stepped from his car he said: "We discussed common issues between Nigeria and Britain. The talks went well."

He denied any detailed knowledge of events at Stansted Airport over night. He said "I do not know anything about what happened there. Certainly it is, to say the least, embarrassing to my Government. It is embarrasing to myself and to the military government."

Asked who he thought was behind the kidnap, he replied: "I have no idea. It must have been some patriotic friends of Nigeria."

Asked to explain the presence of bodies in "diplomatic baggage" found at the airport, he replied: "You cannot run government on the pages of a newspaper. I have not had consular access to all those involved. I have asked to see them".

Asked if he knew the kidnappers, he said "I do not know them. How would I know them if I have not met them? I have no idea. I want consular access to them and then I will be able, when I get my facts, to come back to you and let you know," he told pressmen.

The major general seemed cheerful and in confident mood, showing no signs of strain.

A member of the entourage travelling with him said the high commissioner had not breakfasted at the Foreign Office and had only been there for talks.

Book Criticizing British Role Published

AB060939 Lagos NAN in English 0910 GMT 6 Jul 84

[Text] Lagos, Jul 5 (NAN) — The Chief of Staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brig Tunde Idiagbon, today in Lagos launched a book titled "Nigeria and Its British Invaders 1851-1920," written by Prof Johnson Asiegbu of the Department of History, University of Port Harcourt.

Brig Idiagbon described the book, which was commissioned by the Nigerian Army, as a mirror of the past. He said that the book had brought to light the story of the Anglo-Nigerian relationship "with outstanding clarity." He gave a catalogue of what he called "British acts of bad faith toward Nigeria in recent years" which, he said, included its role during the Nigerian civil war, its indifference toward Nigeria in the negotiations with the IMF and the comfort being provided by that country for political fugitives from Nigeria.

Speaking at the launching ceremony, the book's author, Prof Asiegbu, said there could be no "magic wand" solution to the country's problems, no matter the type of government it had, without "patriotic labour."

In his own speech, Alhaji Abdulaziz Ude, the chairman of Nok Publishers (Nigeria) Ltd, the publishers of the book, observed that to win the war against indiscipline (wai), the basic lessons of British invasion and conquest must be learnt and "we must create and sustain national consciousness and commitment, introduce discipline, probity and selflessness in the conduct of our public affairs."

He said that the publishing company was set up 11 years ago to rescue the state of writing on Africa from "malicious myths and disparaging accounts" seen from the standpoint of "European scholarship and attendant ethnocentrism."

The chairman at the occasion, Prof Akin Adesola, vice-chancellor of the University of Lagos, commended the Army for sponsoring the publication of the book and praised the authorities of the Armed Forces for the emphasis they placed on education, especially in the officer corps.

The launching of the book was one of the events marking the Nigerian Army day.

GUARDIAN Pays 50,000 Naira Fine Before Deadline

AB051720 Lagos International Service in English 1630 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] *GUARDIAN* Newspaper Ltd, convicted yesterday for false publications by the Public Officers Protection Against False Accusation Tribunal, has paid the fine imposed on it. The payment of the 50,000 naira fine was made today by the newspaper's general counsel, Mr Abohye Loyiru, with the Union Bank of Nigeria Isolo branch bank draft. The paper [word indistinct] to tribunal, Mr Tunde Bikok, (?who) acknowledged receipt of the bank draft at exactly 11:55 this morning. The tribunal had in its judgement yesterday given the newspaper up till 1:30 this afternoon to pay the fine.

TOGO

Eyadema Welcomes FRG's Strauss 5 July

AB052155 Lome Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Excerpts] The minister-president of the free state of Bavaria and chairman of the Federal Council of the FRG, Franz Josef Strauss, arrived today at 1255 in Lome to represent the West German Government at the German-Togolese friendship festivities.

The founding chairman of the Rally of the Togolese People and president of the republic, General Gnassingbe Eyadema, personally welcomed Mr Strauss at the airport.

FRG To Cancel Debts

AB052035 Paris AFP in English 1830 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] Lome, July 5 (AFP) — Franz Josef Strauss, minister-president of Bavaria, arrived here to attend ceremonies in Togo to mark today's centenary of the beginning of Germany's colonial presence in the small west African state. During his visit, the climax of celebrations which began at the beginning of this week, Mr Strauss will sign an agreement cancelling Togolese debts worth 288 million deutschemarks (106 million dollars) owed to West Germany, officials at the West German Ministry of Economic Cooperation said.

Germany ruled Togo until the first world war in 1914, when it lost all its African colonies.

After the war, the League of Nations granted administration of the country to France and Britain, which respectively ruled the eastern and western parts of Togo.

The British-ruled part was merged with the Gold Coast, which became independent Ghana in 1957. French Togo achieved independence in 1960.

UPPER VOLTA

Sankara Holds Press Conference Following African Tour

AB051350 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 4 Jul 84

[President Thomas Sankara's press conference given in Ouagadougou at the end of his African tour; date not given — recorded]

[Excerpts] [Unidentified reporter] Mr Chairman of the National Council of the Revolution, following your trip, has a common stand been affirmed during the talks with the progressive heads of state you met during your trip?

[Sankara] I will answer by saying that as a matter of fact, virtually all the heads of state I met agreed with me on common positions which we must defend. These include the holding of all OAU summits in Addis Ababa instead of holding them in turn in various African states. Such a practice has always penalized those countries with no means to organize the summits. So we think that we should take the example of the United Nations and hold our summits all the time in Addis Ababa. Also, we agreed that as a matter of principle, no OAU summit will henceforth be held without the participation of the SDAR. This is a very important element. Similarly, concerning the Chadian issue, we agreed that we should encourage the various initiatives in progress aimed at holding a meeting of Chadian leaders in Brazzaville. We all stressed the need to ensure that the Chadian people could eventually recover peace, to ensure that the Brazzaville meeting will be successful and also that those attending the meeting should understand that any connivance with imperialism is sufficient reason to be excluded from the Brazzaville conference.

We also examined the situation in southern Africa. On this question too, we had convergent views. We all want the OAU to play its role fully. That is, the OAU should condemn the racist policy of South Africa instead of gradually allowing this bastion of racism to enter the circles of civilized states.

Lastly we examined the issue of the possible candidate to the chairmanship of the OAU. On this point too, we came to an agreement. But the time has not come yet to tell you who we feel should succeed Comrade Mengistu.

[Reporter] Comrade President, what would be the attitude of the progressive countries if the other faction within the OAU should reject the participation of the SDAR?

[Sankara] If the attitude of the progressive countries remains what I have been told, I believe that such rejection of the Saharan people's right to sit among the people who are aware of the value of freedom would be tantamount to questioning the OAU. This would lead to an upheaval within the OAU.

[Reporter] I think this is the time to raise this question about southern Africa since the pact Mozambique has signed with South Africa will undoubtedly be raised at the OAU conference. After your discussions with the Mozambique authorities, how did you perceive this signature?

[Sankara] This is a very delicate question in the sense that we had very official discussions and made some public pronouncements too. But we also had some private talks whose scope should be understood within the context of the quality of the revolutionary discussions we had. But on the whole, we are confident, because we were able to express our stand on the Nkomati agreement and in a general manner, we were able to know the details of the pact with South Africa. We expressed our concern and we got the impression that we were understood, although our respective positions remained quite delicate, and continue to disturb us.

[Reporter] I would like to add something to this because you said that we have understood. In my opinion, it is up to us to understand Mozambique's attitude. This is not very clear to me. Does our position condemn the Nkomati agreement?

[Sankara] Before going to Maputo, I particularly said that I was not going there to challenge our condemn the decision. But we have our point of view which we expressed because we feel that in the case of Mozambique, for example, they have been given the opportunity on several occasions to understand that South Africa would not respect the agreement and that it has only one fixed idea: Apartheid, and nothing else. And more than once South Africa has beaten the confidence and vigilance of those who some time ago, for one reason or the other, expected to see a negotiated agreement with it. But we also had our point of view and if we have understood southern Africa this means that we have also been understood.

[Reporter] Comrade President, speaking of the OAU, I would like to return to the Chadian issue because this issue has certainly been raised during the numerous discussions you have held with your African counterparts. Do you think that the solution of the conference will be able to bring about a real settlement of the Chadian problem?

[Sankara] The Brazzaville meeting will take place but it goes without saying that if the sides go to Brazzaville in order to find themselves gaining more support than the other side, the conference will not come out with any useful solution for the benefit of the Chadian people.

[Reporter] I would like to take this opportunity to ask you, Comrade President, if during your contacts with the heads of state you had the impression that the Upper Voltan revolution has been well organized.

[Sankara] If there is something well organized and followed very closely, it is surely the Upper Voltan revolution. There are some people who are afraid — afraid that the revolution might engage an immediate proceeding involving them. There are some others who fear that the revolution might spell their fall or their revolutionary [word indistinct]. In short, I have realized that the Upper Voltan revolution disturbs on the right but it is understood by (?progressive countries).

[Reporter] Comrade President, after your meeting with President Omar Bongo of Gabon, did the two countries disagree on the implementation of their agreements and also on Upper Voltan workers in Gabon?

[Sankara] We have a large number of Upper Voltan citizens — my countrymen — who have lived in Gabon for several years. They are working there. We had the opportunity to have discussions with them during a meeting which lasted for several hours — up until the early hours of the morning. Both at Franceville and Libreville, they told us that they are (?happy) to be in Gabon and that the Gabonese authorities are very hospitable to them. Well enough, but there are other problems to which we were unable to find immediate solutions and we hope to send to Gabon a representative of the Upper Voltan Government to discuss the problems of our workers there. After that we will be assured by the Gabonese authorities. They understand very well the meaning of a revolution, thanks to which a section of the people can be placed at the disposal of international cooperation and immigration. We think that the right time has come for us to discuss with the Gabonese authorities the different terms — those which have been respected and which probably require revision as well as those which have not been respected and need to be reconsidered. But on the whole, they have created the atmosphere which favors the holding of such a discussion. Our policy on this issue is aimed at making the Upper Voltan national feel happy at home. But if the Upper Voltan nationals prefere to travel outside, it is our duty to protect them wherever they might be. And the Upper Voltan revolution will go even as far as to Greenland to protect Upper Voltan nationals there.

[Reporter] Comrade President, the trial of Gerard Kango Ouedraogo took place while you were out of the country. Why did you allow the trial to go ahead in your absence? What is your feeling on the judgement delivered in this trial?

[Sankara] Trails are not planned ahead. But minimum arrangements are necessary so that they will not be held in a limited period. So trials can be held at all times. Also, it does not matter at all whether the head of state is in the country or not during any trial whatsoever. As long as the people are present, trials can take place. I believe that my absence has not been harmful and my presence would not have added anything either. I have no evidence to bear witness for or against Kango Ouedraogo. We learned about the verdict through media reports while we were in Madagascar, in Gabon, or in Congo; well, it was in Gabon. We as Upper Voltans thought that if the people decided so, it was all right. Had the people passed another verdict, it would also have been all right.

Leaders of SADCC Member States Arrive in Gaberone

MB051830 Gaborone Domestic Service in English
1610 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] Five Southern African Development Coordination Conference [SADCC] heads of state and government arrived in Gaborone today for their annual summit tomorrow. First to arrive was the Zimbabwean prime minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, accompanied by his foreign minister, Dr Witness Mangwende, about 1140. An hour later, President Samora Machel of Mozambique arrived, followed by President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia and his wife, Mrs Betty Kaunda. President Julius Nyerere of Tanzania was last to arrive at the Gaborone airport at about 1445. Prime Minister Bhekimpi Dlamini of Swaziland arrived by road later.

At the Gaborone airport the heads of state and government were welcomed by the president, Dr Quett Masire, and Mrs Masire. Also present were the vice president and minister of finance and development planning, Mr Peter Mmusi, who is also the chairman of the SADCC Council of Ministers; cabinet ministers; members of the diplomatic corps; the chief justice Mr O'Brien Quinn; the mayor of Gaborone, Mr Patrick Kwakwase; the commissioner of police, Mr Simon Hirschfield; the commander of the Botswana Defense Force, Major General Mompati Merafe, and members of the public. Each of the leaders inspected a guard of honor mounted by members of the Botswana Defense Force and watched traditional dancers.

This evening the SADCC leaders will have dinner at the State House hosted by the president, Dr Quett Masire. Leaders of ministerial delegations will also be at the dinner. Tonight the Botswana Journalists' Association will be hosting a reception for visiting jounalists at the press center at the Gaborone Sun Conference Center.

Tomorrow morning at 0925, Dr Masire will open the SADCC summit at a ceremony at the National Stadium after which the SADCC leaders will meet behind closed doors at Gaborone Sun Conference Center. Members of the public are expected to have taken their seats at the national stadium by 0815 tomorrow morning.

There will be a press conference at the end of the summit about noon. The SADCC summit will among other things elect a new chairman and appoint a new executive secretary. Botswana has been chairman of the organization's Central Commission and the administrative secretary in the office of the president, Mr Lebang Mpotokwane, took over as acting executive secretary of SADCC following the death of its first executive secretary, Mr Arthur Blumeris.

Luanda on SADCC Meeting

MB051015 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] Ismael Martins, our country's minister of foreign trade, is in Gaborone, the capital of Botswana, heading an Angolan delegation which is taking part in the ministerial meeting of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference [SADCC] being held there. The Angolan delegation includes Carlos Fernandes, the state secretary for cooperation, and Paulino Pinto Joao, the director of the Department of Information and Propaganda of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee. The meeting, which began yesterday, is devoted to the discussion of issues connected with activities developed by the SADCC, as well as pending issues from the meeting of experts, which ended the day before yesterday.

The meeting of heads of state and government of the organization's member countries begins tomorrow, and Angola will be represented by Manuel Alexandre Duarte Rodrigues Kito, the interior minister.

In July 1985, the People's Republic of Angola will for the first time host a summit of the heads of state and government of the SADCC member countries. This was confirmed at the Gaborone meeting yesterday.

ANGOLA

Armed Forces Kill 32 UNITA 'Criminals' 17-19 Jun

MB051415 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
1200 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] More than 30 UNITA criminals were annihilated by the national defense and security forces in actions carried out in Moxico, Huambo, and Malanje Provinces between 17 and 19 June.

In the Cambunze and (Catembo) region, in Malanje Province, the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] put 24 criminals out of action and wounded another 2 in a clash which took place on 17 June. On 18 June, FAPLA annihilated another four puppets in the Mucussuenge region, Moxico Province, during a clash with a gang of criminals. The Angolan combatants captured various types of war materiel during this action. On 19 June, another two UNITA criminals were killed in Lungo region in Huambo Province. The FAPLA combatants captured various weapons and ammunition.

Twenty Students Conclude Studies in CSSR

MB050950 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] A total of 20 Angolan students concluded medium- and higher-level courses in the CSSR this academic year. This was revealed in Prague by Ercenio Ferreira de Sousa, the deputy chairman of the Angolan Student Union in that country. Eight of the students undertook a medium-level course in mechanics, seven specialized in civil construction, one in agriculture, another in agrarian economy, and still another in civil engineering. They are expected to return home as soon as their tickets have been processed by the Angolan Institute of Scholarships. The finalists constitute the majority of the Angolan students who left for Czechoslovakia in 1979, the year of cadre training.

LESOTHO

Commentary Scores Proposal for Caretaker Government

MB051058 Maseru Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] An aspect that has and continues to feature in Lesotho's election campaigns is the issue of the status of government machinery from the date of the announcement of elections to the formation of a new government resulting from the outcome of those election. That this issue forms part of the agenda of political campaigns is the sole responsibility of the Basotholand Congress Party [BCP], to a political debate in the country. The issue is irrelevant. It is without substance, and is, above all, the kind of cheap rhetorical tactics and paucity of political contribution that the nation must safeguard itself against. According to the BCP pronouncements, once the date of elections is announced, the king's government is supposed to expire. In its place, so the argument goes, a caretaker government machinery should be established to await what the BCP foresees as its rightful electoral mandate to assume government after elections.

Of course, politicians of all shades can seldom, if ever, be ever found guilty of modesty of expectations, but the BCP's tactics and the contribution of this issue into Lesotho's political agenda is candidly beyond the threshold of rational political ambitions. Even worse, it is this very kind of tactic that subsumes a view of the nation as the people who are naive, if not altogether childish and ignorant.

A cursory glance at practice elsewhere is sufficient to show how misleading this BCP tactic has been and continues to be. In virtually all Commonwealth countries, and Lesotho is one, which have adopted in some form or other the Westminster type of parliamentary practice, the government in power remains in control until it is defeated at the polls.

Where the BCP got its inspiration for a caretaker government from remains a mystery. It is certainly a most novel thought and quite characteristic of opposition party tactics and rhetoric in Lesotho. But of course, this tactic merits closer examination. It may well be that it does not border as close to mysticism as it first appears to be. In most countries the run-up period to elections can stretch anywhere from 2 months to 6 or 9 months. In others the campaigns for elections take even longer. In the United States, from the very date of swearing in of a new president the opposition starts to prepare to unseat him after his very first 4-year term of office.

What the opposition parties want in Lesotho is that from anywhere from 3 to 6 months there should be no prime minister, no senior minister, and, naturally, no cabinet to run the affairs of the country pending the outcome of the elections. The vacuum should be filled by their caretaker government. In short, the whole governmental machinery should be left in a state of near paralysis until Mokhehle descends upon Maseru from his hideout in Soweto.

It is pertinent for the nation to ask itself whether it is not being asked to endorse a coup d'etat. That is really what this novel opposition party tactic amounts to when seen under very close microscopic political analysis. The answer to BCP must continue to be a firm no to this irrelevant, cheap, and empty notion. BCP must stop this practice of tactical bankruptcy.

Jonathan Says Human Rights Bill To Take Effect

MB051746 Maseru Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] The prime minister, the Right Honorable Dr Leabua Jonathan, who is also minister responsible for constitutional affairs, has announced that the Human Rights Act of 1983 will come into operation on Wednesday the 18th of this month. This is reflected in a notice soon to be published in the government gazette. According to the provisions of the act every individual shall be entittled to the enjoyment of the rights and freedom recognized and guaranteed in the act without distinction of any kind.

Among other provisions of the act the state shall guarantee the independence of the courts and allow the establishment and improvement of appropriate national institutions entrusted to the promotion and protection of the rights and freedom guaranteed by the act. It also stipulates certain duties of individuals towards the family, the community, and the state including respect for the national flag and the national anthem.

The act further guarantees freedom of expression while respecting the rights or reputation of others and protecting national security, public order, and public health [words indistinct].

Although the act will come into force on 18th of this month, it was passed by the National Assembly in August last year to guarantee and safeguard the rights of individuals in Lesotho and ensure that the conduct of persons administering the laws of the country conform with the provisions of the act, and (?all) connected purposes.

Diplomatic Relations Established With Pakistan

MB051816 Maseru Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] Lesotho and Pakistan have signed an agreement establishing diplomatic relations between the two countries. The agreement was signed yesterday by Lesotho's ambassador to Mozambique His Excellency Mr David Makoae and the Pakistani ambassador to Mozambique, Mr Raja Khadim Hussain.

Lesotho and Pakistan have decided to establish diplomatic relations at the level of ambassador to take effect from yesterday, 4 July.

In his remarks during the ceremony, Mr Mokoae emphasized that it was the policy of the Lesotho Government to establish diplomatic relations with all friendly countries and that since independence, the prime minister Right Honorable Dr Leabua Jonathan had consistently advocated diplomacy and dialogue as the cornerstone of his foreign policy.

Pakistani Ambassador Hussain on the other hand said that he was delighted that his government had established diplomatic relations with Lesotho and that his head of state, his government, and the people of Pakistan admire Lesotho for its brave and courageous foreign policy.

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Departs for SADCC Meeting in Gaborone

MB051227 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] President Samora Machel left this morning for Gaborone, capital of Botswana, to attend the annual summit of the heads of state and government of the nine member countries of the Southern Africa Development Coordination Conference [SADCC], to start today in that city.

This summit was preceded by two preparatory meetings, namely of the SADCC experts and the Council of Ministers, which ended yesterday.

Members of the Political Bureau, Council of Ministers, and high-ranking officers from the FPLM general staff went to Maputo international airport to see Machel off.

Frelimo Discusses New 'Foreign Conspiracy'

MB051429 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] The Frelimo Party Political Bureau met in Maputo yesterday to analyze the evolution of the country's situation, particularly the action of the armed bandits after the Nkomati Accord signed between the Governments of Mozambique and South Africa.

According to a communique released today, the Political Bureau also discussed new elements which are revealing the dimension of a foreign conspiracy against the independence of Mozambique and the freedom of the Mozambican people. They imply the involvement of personalities and governments which have diplomatic relations with our country as well as the involvement of nostalgic circles of colonialism.

Issues relating to national economic development within the framework of implementing the 1984 central state plan were also reviewed in this session of the Frelimo Political Bureau.

RSA Not Involved

MB051940 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] The Political Bureau of the Frelimo Party has said it is in possession of information which indicates the involvement of certain foreign politicians in a conspiracy against Mozambique. The statement from the Political Bureau was the third official reference to a conspiracy in less than 2 weeks, but the first to specifically mention foreign government officials.

The statement said the Political Bureau had met in Maputo yesterday to assess the evolution of the situation in Mozambique and analyze the activity of the armed bandits in the country since the signing of the Nkomati Nonaggression Accord with South Africa last March. Before the accord, the bandits were recruited, trained, and armed by the South Africa authorities, but this support is now prohibited under the terms of the agreement.

Today's statement said that the Political Bureau had studied new elements which revealed the scale of the foreign conspiracy against the independence of Mozambique and freedom of the Mozambican people. These elements, the statement went on, implied the involvement of personalities and governments which have diplomatic relations with Mozambique as well as circles nostalgic for colonialism. The statement did not identify the conspirators, but the reference to diplomatic relations indicates that members of the South African Government are not included. Mozambique does not have diplomatic relations with Pretoria.

President Samora Machel first mentioned the conspiracy in a speech to the diplomatic corps in Maputo on 25 June, the ninth anniversary of Mozambique's independence from Portugal in 1975.

Two days later in a speech in the city of Beira, he spoke of those who are always against independence being behind the armed bandits. President Machel said the government was gathering more and more proof and would give more information later.

MNRM Claims Responsibility for 22, 24 Jun Attacks

PA060112 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2235 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] Lisbon, 5 Jul (EFE) — The Mozambique National Resistance Movement, MNRM, today in Lisbon claimed responsibility for the attack carried out in the central part of the country, 60 km from Beira, in which 79 government soldiers were killed.

(Jorge Correia), MNRM spokesman in Europe, told EFE via telephone that the attack took place on 22 June and that the bridge over the Pungue River was destroyed isolating Beira, Mozambique's second largest city, from the rest of the country.

The battalion defending the bridge when the attack occurred was virtually destroyed.

The MNRM also claimed responsibility for the sabotage carried out on 24 June in which the Cabora Bassa Dam powerlines, which provide the capital of Mozambique with electricity, were destroyed.

NAMIBIA

Arrested SWAPO Members Will Not Be Prosecuted

MB060657 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] The office of the attorney general in Windhoek has decided not to prosecute 37 SWAPO members who were arrested in a police swoop on a social function last month. The 37 were to have appeared in court next Friday. The group, including two senior officials of SWAPO, were seized by police as they attended a braaivleis [barbecue] on Roman Catholic church land near Windhoek. They had been celebrating the release of more than 50 SWAPO members after 6 years in detention.

Seven Injured in Three Bomb Attacks

6 Injured in Oshakati

MB051523 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] Six people have been injured in a bomb blast at the wholesale store of the First National Development Corporation at Oshakati in Ovambo. The corporation's chief liaison officer, Mr (Daan Kruger), says three of the injured are corporation employees. Police believe the bomb was inside a parcel at the entrance to the building.

The blast was the fifth this year on corporation premises. In one of the incidents, two American diplomats and an Ovambo were killed.

Office Damaged in Katutura

MB060702 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 6 Jul 84

[Text] A bomb exploded at the office complex of the National Building and Investment Corporation at Katutura near Windhoek last night, but no one was injured. The explosion was the fourth in a single day in South-West Africa, following earlier explosions at Oshakati and Ondanwa in Ovambo. At least seven people were injured in the explosion in Ovambo. A spokesman for the police in South-West Africa says there are clear links between the bomb incidents in the territory recently.

One Injured at Ondangwa

MB051732 Johanneburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Excerpts] At least seven people have been injured in three bomb blasts at Oshakati and Ondangwa in Ovambo. In two explosions on business premises in the (Aluma) residential area at Ondangwa, one person was injured.

SOUTH AFRICA

Defense Minister Comments on Arms Sales

MB051548 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] The minister of defense, General Magnus Malan, says South African arms sales to other countries are handled with the greatest caution. Speaking in the debate of the second reading of the finance bill in the House of Assembly, he said there were clear guidelines on what, and especially to whom, arms would be sold. He gave assurances that arms would not be sold to countries which could use them directly or indirectly against South Africa. He said revenue from arms sales was used by the state for other weapons purchases.

Rumpff Justifies Dissolution of Land Commissions

MB060638 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 6 Jul 84

[Text] The chairman of the disbanded commissions appointed to investigate the proposed incorporation of KaNgwane and Ingwavuma into Swaziland, Mr Justice F. Rumpff, has given details of his reasons for suggesting to the South African Government that the commissions be dissolved in the interests of peace in south and southern Africa. The reasons are given in a letter sent by Mr Justice Rumpff to the other members of the commissions. A copy of the letter has been handed to SAPA's Pretoria office by the secretary of the commissions, Mr (G J.C. Myburgh).

Mr Justice Rumpff pointed out in the letter that evidence before the KaNgwane commission had shown that the population of KaNgwane was well over 800,000, while that of Swaziland was only about 560,000, and that the overwhelming majority of the inhabitants of KaNgwane were against incorporation into Swaziland. In regard to the Ingwavuma area, he had told the government that there might be intimidation if the commission were to proceed further. He had suggested that no useful purpose could be served if the commissions were allowed to go on with their work, which might take several years to complete.

Heunis Sees Progress on Constitutional Future of Blacks

MB060644 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 6 Jul 84

[Text] The minister of constitutional development and planning, Mr Chris Heunis, says constructive progress was made yesterday at the talks between the special cabinet committee investigating the constitutional future of blacks outside the national states and leaders of the nonindependent states. In a statement issued after the 6-hour meeting, Mr Heunis said a wide range of subjects had been discussed and more meetings would take place on 22 August and 7 November. Mr Heunis said that at the meeting — the seventh since the inception of the special cabinet committee — the opportunity was used to speak freely and frankly about problems in the political, social, and economic fields.

Preparations Continue for 22 August Elections
MB060647 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 6 Jul 84

[Text] The elections for the House of Representatives on 22 August are published in the government gazette today. [as heard] It gives the names of electoral officers in the various constituencies and publishes a list of places where the nomination court will sit from 1000 to 1100 in the morning on 23 July. A spokesman for the department of internal affairs has said in Pretoria that prospective Colored condidates can send their application forms for registration to electoral officers from today.

Colored political parties have to register not later than 16 July. Candidates of parties failing to register will have to stand as independents. So far, three parties have registered: they are the Labor Party, the People's Congress Party, and the Freedom Party. The proclamation for the election of members to the House of Delegates is to be published in the government gazette on Monday.

SWAZILAND

Prime Minister Meets With Zambian Envoy on ANC
MB051125 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 5 Jul 84 pp 1, 16

[Excerpt] There are strong indications that the long scheduled meeting between the Prime Minister, Prince Bhekimpi, and ANC leader Oliver Tambo will take place in Botswana tomorrow.

And further indications are that Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda will play the role of mediator in the meeting between the ANC and Swaziland delegations.

One pointer was a hurried visit to Mbabane of President Kaunda's right hand man, Mr Wilfred J. Phiri, who brought a special message from President Kaunda to the Prime Minister. After brief remarks the press was asked to leave and Prince Bhekimpi held a behind-doors discussion with Dr Kaunda's special emmisary.

During the greetings, Prince Bhekimpi expressed Swaziland's profound appreciation for President Kaunda's role in the Swaziland and ANC problem. Although he did not give any details, Prince Bhekimpi said Swaziland had occasionally asked Dr Kaunda to ask the ANC to come and discuss problems with Swaziland and asked him to continue playing this fatherly role as he and King Sobhuza were close friends.

Mr Phiri replied that the King's demise did not have any bearing on the healthy relations between the two countries and stated that President Kaunda had instructed him to assure the prime minister and the Supreme Council of State relations between Swaziland and Zambia would remain solid.

Mr Phiri also paid a courtesy call to the Liqoqo in Lobamba.

Media Officials Deny Reports of Confrontation
MB051155 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 5 Jul 84 pp 1, 16

[Text] Media organisations in Swaziland have vehemently refuted allegations that the Supreme Council of State and the media in Swaziland are heading for a head-on clash. The denial follows South African agency reports allegedly emanating from Swaziland charging that a confrontation is developing between members of the council (Liqoqo) and the local media.

The reports alleged yesterday that three senior newsmen of the Swaziland Television Broadcasting Corporation [STBC] have been suspended for broadcasting a statement by the sacked Minister of Finance, Dr Sishayi Nxumalo.

Mr Sam Magagula, managing director of STBC, denied any knowledge of such a confrontation nor of the reported suspension of newsmen from his television station. The Minister of Interior, Mr King Mtetwa, who is a member of the Board of Directors of STBC, also denied the suspension of the three newsmen.

The Editor of *THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND*, Mr James Dlamini, also strongly refuted the existence of any discord between his paper and members of the Supreme Council. He said the two were working for the same country. "The government does criticise *THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND* from time to time, and the newspaper does voice some criticism directed at the government on certain issues of national importance," he said. "This to me does not amount to confrontation but rather as nation building by two parties who have the interest of the same people at heart. It would hurt me if a situation as described in the report were to develop."

The Editor of *THE OBSERVER* Mr Chisa Ngwira declined to make any comment on the issue. He said, "I have not seen the agency reports yet, and I don't think it wise for me to comment on them."

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Leaves for SADCC Meeting in Gaborone
MB051240 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 5 Jul 84

[Text] His Excellency President Kaunda left for Gaborone, Botswana, today to attend the regional annual summit of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference [SADCC] which opens tomorrow. Dr Kaunda is accompanied by his wife, Madam Kaunda, and two ministers, Frederick Chuula and Leonard Subulwa. He was seen off at the internatonal airport by Party Secretary General Humphrey Mulemba, Prime Minister Nalumino Mundia, and Secretary of State for Defense and Security Grey Zulu, and other senior party and government officials.